

**GENEVA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 304
227 NORTH FOURTH STREET, GENEVA, ILLINOIS
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR SESSION
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 304 met in a regular session on Monday, July 22, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at Williamsburg Elementary School, 1812 Williamsburg Avenue, Geneva, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Roll Call
- 1.2 Welcome
- 1.3 Pledge
- 1.4 Reminder to sign attendance sheet

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Grosso.

Board members present: President Mark Grosso, Leslie Juby, Kelly Nowak, Policy Committee Chair Mary Stith, Finance Committee Chair Bill Wilson. Late: None. Absent: David Lamb, Mike McCormick.

The President welcomed everyone, led them in the Pledge and reminded them to sign the attendance record.

District administrators present: Kelley Munch, Communication Coordinator; Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Patty O'Neil, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction; and Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Fred Dresser, Cathy Meives, Anne Marie Moore, Jennifer Cox, Molly Lindsay, Lauren & Jim Solner, Dawn Gargano, Brenna Westerhoff, Michelle Dewald, Amy Newkirk, Bonnie Eberle, Susan Sarkauskas (Daily Herald), Brenda Schory (KC Chronicle), Rick Nagel (Patch), Alexa Aguilar (Tribune).

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Per Board Policy 0167.3, Section C, Attendees wishing to speak at the Board meeting must register their intention to participate in the public portion(s) of the meeting upon their arrival at the meeting. Complete the form found in the Welcome to Our Meeting brochure (print legibly) and give it to the Presiding Officer or the Recording Secretary before the meeting is called to order.

Comments included:

Thanks for discussing all-day kindergarten. Studies show the benefits to students in an all-day kindergarten program. Common Core will require more time for student learning and the benefits will surely outweigh the costs. There will also be transportation savings with an all-day program. We must find a way to have the option of an all-day kindergarten program.

Was all-day kindergarten voted on in the past, and if it was, why wasn't it approved? (It was discussed in the past and a study on the topic was conducted in 2007-2008 but it was never voted on because we didn't have funds available then to implement an all-day program. The Kindergarten Foundations program was implemented as an optional program for kindergarten students who needed extra help.) How can parents help to bring forward an all-day kindergarten program? (Board discussion starts tonight and will move forward from this point. The Board has received a few emails both pro and con about all-day kindergarten. Parents can attend the Board meetings, send emails, and attend future forums.)

I have a teaching background and have spoken to both the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and the Director of Curriculum about the State's Common Core Standards. I've also done some research on my own. What will Common Core cost the taxpayers of Geneva? I've heard there may be a possible tax on our phone bill to pay for these Standards. The only way to opt out is through legislation. These standards have never been tested in a classroom. Do we want our children to be test cases? The Standards come from a think tank. They were completed in 2012 and adopted just twenty-two days later. The constitution assigns education to the states, so why adopt federal Common Core Standards? There will be a database on our children from preschool

to age twenty, without parental permission. Our students deserve better than these mediocre standards. Please do your own research. Our kids deserve better than Common Core.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 Regular Session June 24, 2013

3.2 Executive Session June 24, 2013

A Board member requested that the minutes be voted on separately.

Motion by Nowak, second by Wilson, to approve Item 3.1, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Juby, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Wilson, second by Juby, to approve Item 3.2, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, four (4), Nowak, Wilson, Juby, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Abstained, one (1), Stith. Motion carried.

4. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Above-ground demolition of the Coultrap building is complete. Thanked neighbors for their patience during the demolition process. The Coultrap building's corner stone appears to contain a time capsule which could be opened during the rededication of the Fourth Street building. Thanked the Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction and Director of Curriculum for the professional development opportunities that were available for teachers and staff this summer. New teachers will participate in training and orientation over the next couple of weeks; staff will report back to work on August 19th; and students return to school on August 21st.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 2013-2014 Tentative Budget Adoption & Authorization to Establish Public Hearing Date

The Assistant Superintendent Business Services provided an overview of the 2013-2014 tentative budget. The Finance Committee and the Board received preliminary Education, Operation and Maintenance, and Transportation Fund budgets at previous meetings. By statute, the Board is required to adopt the tentative budget, place it on public display for thirty days, and set the date for the public hearing and adoption of the final budget. Following the thirty-day public display, the final budget will be brought to the Board for approval on August 26, 2013.

The Assistant Superintendent presented a balanced tentative budget for 2013-2014 with revenues projected at \$92,615,089 and expenditures projected at \$91,591,583.

The levy was based on a CPI of 1.5%. Salary increases per employee agreements were about 2.65%. General State Aid was figured at an 82% proration. The REMS and Riverboat Grant funding is eliminated. State reimbursement for regular and vocational transportation is 19% lower than the previous year. Our buses have been reduced by about 15 in the past several years and we will continue to look for efficiencies in transportation. Surplus in the Education Fund will be used to help pay down debt. Interest income continues to be down for the Working Cash fund. We will levy for what we need for municipal retirement. The projected shortfall in the O&M Fund is due to depleted funds from previous referendums.

Board discussion, comments, questions: Are we ensuring that the bus buyback is the most cost efficient plan and what can we do to level revenue and expense in transportation? (We are researching transportation options.) Would it be possible to purchase buses at different times? (The bid process starts in November, we are trying to build this into the bid documents.) We've discussed having William Blair look at restructuring our debt and abatements. (Correct, and while interest rates are not good, they are looking at restructuring possibilities.) Want the William Blair representative to present to the Finance Committee before presenting to the full board. (This is being planned.) What is done with the surplus funds at the end of the year? (Anything over \$15 million in the Education Fund goes to abatement.) We're trying to target draw down to help with tax relief.

Motion by Stith, second by Wilson, to adopt the 2013-2014 tentative budget, direct the administration to publish the date of the public hearing, and place the tentative budget on public display, as required by statute. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Stith, Wilson, Juby, Nowak, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 Policy Updates 1st Reading:

7.1.1 Policy 1132, 3132 & 4132, Tuition Benefit for Children of Employees Residing Outside the District, **Revised**

7.1.2 Policy 5136, Student Use of Personal Wireless Communication Devices, **New - Replaces Policy 5510**

7.1.3 Policy 5510, Student Use of Personal Wireless Communication Devices, **Delete**

7.1.4 Policy 7540.02, District Web Site, **Revised**

7.1.5 Policy 8550, Competitive Food Sales, **New**

The Policy Committee Chair noted these policies were presented for a first reading and would be brought back for second reading and adoption at the next meeting.

7.2 Full Day Kindergarten

The Superintendent reported that full-day kindergarten was a long-range goal of the Board of Education. However, even if a full-day kindergarten program is implemented, the District is still mandated to offer a half-day program as well. He noted that a study was commissioned by the Board of Education in 2007 and completed in 2008 to determine the best instructional model for kindergarten. At this point, the administration was looking for direction from the Board of Education on how to proceed. The administration would want teacher input as they considered this issue and that the review process would probably take a year. While most of the elementary buildings have space for a full-day program, we need to explore the space and financial implications.

Board discussion, comments, questions: All Board members should have a copy of the 2008 final Kindergarten Study report. Typically, each elementary building has two classrooms dedicated for kindergarten classes. Have concerns that if one of the rooms is dedicated to a full-day program, we won't have enough kindergarten classroom space. Also have concerns about the number of students that could participate in the full-day program. How many students would be in the full-day class? How would they be determined - by lottery? Want the process to be fair and equitable. What would the full-day program cost the district? Would we charge parents more for the full-day program? We have the Foundations Program for kindergarten students now. What happens to the students in that program. How do we ensure that the half-day students are on the same par at the start of first grade? Will that impact first, second or third grades? We need to move forward but we have to have answer for enrollment by 2015-2016. Most of the concerns are financial and would hope that the committee would have reviewed the financial implications by next spring. There needs to be a realistic timeline and deadline to share with the public and would hope it won't take a year. We need to be aggressive and would like the Board to have information by December. Concerned about how families receiving free/reduced lunch would pay to participate. In 2008, all of the Board members agreed a full-day kindergarten program was important and a goal, but curriculum and finances are also important. Agree that we do need a timeline/deadline for decisions and completion. It will require teamwork from the administration and the teachers and we do need to move forward. Good information was provided by the administration in the Guidelines for Consideration of full-day kindergarten in this meeting packet. Can we offset any possible costs? Would like feedback from the community and would like to schedule a forum to discuss this and other district-related topics in late August or early September. Would also like to see that there are educational benefits to a full-day kindergarten program and that it's not just day care. Kindergarten enrollment starts in March, which is only eight months away -- is that enough time to have a program start in 2014-15? We need to ensure as much time as necessary before making a decision and we need to be sensible and weigh the costs vs. the benefits of a full-day program. We also need to keep in mind the implementation of Common Core Standards for kindergarten students. Would like to have a rough idea of a preliminary timeline as we put together a task force. At this point, we aren't even sure what the demand is for a full-day kindergarten program, so, maybe there could be a transitional year for full-day kindergarten.

The Superintendent suggested that it would be better not to schedule a forum until later in the fall so that the administration could organize the task force and create a timeline to bring to the Board. The task force would consider what the program should be, how it would compare to a half-day program, the implications of Common Core Standards for kindergarten, and building-level needs before bringing options or recommendations to the Board.

8. INFORMATION

8.1 FOIA Requests

8.2 Out-of-state Trip, GHS Choir Students, February 2013, Nashville, TN

8.3 IASB 2013-2014 Membership
No discussion.

8.4 Fourth Street Renovations & Re-dedication

The projects for the Fourth Street facility are not renovations, rather they are maintenance that was deferred until a decision was made about Coultrap. The dedication of the Coultrap building occurred on September 28th, which this year is a Saturday, so it might be a good date to re-dedicate the Fourth Street facility. There are many items and documents at Fourth Street that can't be replaced and there is no sprinkler system. This would be an ideal time to check on the cost of a sprinkler or fire suppression system and its impact on insurance costs. (The Assistant Superintendent Business Services and Director of Facility Operations will check on this.)

9. CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Monthly Financial Reports and Interfund Transfers

9.2 Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires

New Hires Certified

Boutan, Katlynn, GMSN&S, Social Worker, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Doresey, Elisabeth, HES/FS, Social Worker, .80 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Herrera, Nick, GHS, Physical Education, .50 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Highmark, Meredith, HES, Grade 5, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Krueger, Laura, FS, Speech Language Pathologist, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Prudden, Kathleen, HSS/WAS, Social Worker, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Rinaldi, Natalie, GMSN, Language Arts, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Seitelman, Anne, GHS, Physical Education, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Self, Blake, GMSN, Speech Language Pathologist, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Sementa, Michael, GMSN, Science, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Vincolese, Jaclyn, HES, General Music, 1.0 FTE, Start Date 8/19/13

Resignations Certified

Paris, Sara, FS, Speech Language Pathologist, 1.0 FTE, Effective 5/31/13

Reappointments Certified

Blaszynski, Toni, HES, Grade 3, 1.0 FTE

Kosar, Angelina, MCS, Kindergarten, .50 FTE

Palazzetti, Angela, HSS, Art, .30 FTE

Pawlak, Chris, GHS, Speech Language Pathologist, .70 FTE

Putz, Lindsay, WES, Kindergarten, .50 FTE

Sweeney, Karin, FS, Speech Language Pathologist, .60 FTE

Winters, Jessica, FS, Psychologist, .50 FTE

Yingst, Nicole, GMSN&S, Art, .30 FTE

Resignations Support

Fiden, Marybeth, FES, Special Ed Assistant, 9 Month, Effective 5/31/13

Marzuki, Gary, CO, Mail Courier, 12 Month, 6/24/13

Palarz, Ashley, FES, Special Ed Assistant, 9 Month, 5/31/13

Ward, Larry, CO, Custodian, 12 Month, 8/2/13

Reappointments/Reclassifications Support

Cornelson, Irene, GMSS, Special Ed Assistant, 7 hr/day, 9 Month

Herrera, Lisa, FES, Special Ed Assistant, 6 hr/day, 9 Month

Little, Regis, FS, Special Ed Assistant, 6.25 hr/day, 9 Month

Migliazzo, Sarah, HES, Special Ed Assistant, 6 hr/day, 9 Month

Morgan, Janice, HES, Special Ed Assistant, 3 hr/day, 9 Month

Mourek, Kathleen, WAS, Special Ed Assistant, 3 hr/day, 9 Month

Neumann, Judith, WES, Special Ed Assistant, 3 hr/day, 9 Month

Towler, Kelly, WES, Special Ed Assistant, 6 hr/day, 9 Month

Retirement Support

Rosencrants, Karl, District, Grounds, 12 Month, Effective 1/10/14

Dismissal Support

Diaz, Rigoberto, GMSS, Custodian, 12 Month, Effective 7/23/13

9.3 Lease Renewal 2013-2014: 2 Multifunction Student Activity Buses, \$16,992.00

9.4 Disposition of Verbatim Record of Closed Meetings January 2011 through December 2011

9.5 Pay Request #2, \$306,862.61, Alpine Demolition Services, Coultrap Demolition

9.6 Pay Request #1, \$60,541.10, FGM Architects, Coultrap Demolition

9.7 Pay Request #1, \$114,922.28, Geneva Construction Company, Paving/Resurfacing/Crack

- Sealing at FES, MCS, HES, GMSS and GHS
- 9.8 Pay Request #1, \$210,000, Performance Services, GHS Unit Ventilator Replacement/Lighting Upgrade & GMSS VAV Boxes Replacement & Heating Hot Water Re-piping

Motion by Wilson, second by Nowak, to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.8, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Wilson, Juby, Nowak, Stith, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION

There were none.

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Policy Committee, Finance Committee, Boundary Task Force, Communications Task Force, Facilities Task Force, Joint PTO, Geneva Academic Foundation, Geneva All-Sports Boosters, Geneva Music Boosters, Geneva High School Theater Boosters, GEARS, K-12 Discipline Committee, Geneva Coalition for Youth, PRIDE, Fox Valley Career Center, IASB/Legislative, IASB Kishwaukee Governing Board, REMS Grant Advisory Board

The Communication Task Force continues to meet and is focusing on improvements to the District's goals booklet to make it more visual, timely, and, hopefully, a more user friendly document. Board members were reminded of an IASB Data First workshop in August. A Board member reiterated a desire to see the implementation of a computer science/computer programming class offered at Geneva High School

12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC BODY [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1); AND PENDING LITIGATION [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)]

At 8:14 p.m., motion by Stith, second by Wilson, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; and pending litigation. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Juby, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

At 8:15 p.m., the Recording Secretary was excused from the executive session and the meeting.

At 8:22 p.m., following a break to relocate to the conference room, the Board moved into executive session.

At 9:40 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Stith, and with unanimous consent, the Board returned to open session.

14. ACTION POSSIBLE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

None taken.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:42 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Stith, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____ PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____ RECORDING SECRETARY

(Kent Mutchler) RECORDING SECRETARY