

**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, June 23, 2014, 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, David Lamb, Mike McCormick, Vice President Kelly Nowak, Policy Committee Chair Mary Stith. Late: Finance Committee Chair Bill Wilson. Absent: None.

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

District administrators present: Tom Rogers, Principal, Geneva High School; Doug Drexler, Associate Principal, Geneva High School; Elizabeth Janowiak, Director of Technology; Todd Latham, Director Business Services; Craig Collins, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Patty O'Neil, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; and Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Lori Dowd, Bob McQuillan

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.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 3.1 Regular Session, June 9, 2014
- 3.2 Executive Session, June 9, 2014

Motion by McCormick, second by Nowak, to approve the above-listed minutes as presented. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent: one. (1) Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.

4. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent reported that there will be professional development institutes offered this summer for all staff. Our crews are actively working to clean all buildings and grounds in preparation for the new school year.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

None.

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 Class Rank Information

Tom Rogers and Doug Drexler presented information on class ranking. Over the past two years, the Geneva High School Administration has studied the topic of individual class rank, asking the following questions:

1. How do colleges and universities use the individual class rank statistic that is currently reported to them?
2. What benefit does the individual class rank statistic actually provide for our students?
3. Would GHS students be negatively impacted in any way if individual class rank were no longer reported?
4. If individual class rank were no longer reported, what additional information might we need to provide to colleges?

We have surveyed more than 50 colleges and universities that visited the GHS Counseling & Advising Office over the past two years. Additionally, we sought out some highly selective universities that did not visit GHS to ensure that we had all tiers of universities represented in our study.

Findings:

- Colleges and universities do not require students to submit individual class rank for admission
- Colleges and universities do not use class rank to make admission decisions
- More than half of all American high schools no longer report individual class rank
- Colleges and universities do utilize transcripts, GPA, ACT scores, and extracurricular activities
- GHS students will not be hindered in any way if individual class rank were not reported
- There are some scholarships that continue to ask for individual class rank

We also identified that there could be negative consequences to our current practice of ranking students individually. GHS has a large population of high achieving students that has strong grades, but have lower individual class rank that can mask their academic achievement. Because GHS reports individual class rank, many students had to report on their college applications that they were in the bottom half of their class. High schools who no longer report individual class rank have moved to a GPA distribution statistic that is sent to colleges. This statistic provides information that is more useful to students in the admissions process. Additionally, it eliminates unhealthy competition between students. Competition will still exist, but in a healthier way. Moving away from individual class rank will also open up more course opportunities to our students. Currently, some students make their class choices based on preserving their individual class rank.

Recommendation:

The GHS Administration recommends that the use of individual class rank be phased out and replaced by a GPA distribution statistic. Seniors (Class of 2015) who already have received an individual class rank statistic would continue to receive information about their rank until they graduate, while other students would not receive an individual class rank statistic. As there are some scholarships that continue to ask for class rank, individual class rank would be provided to students upon receipt of documents that require it.

Board comments, questions, discussion: Thank you to GHS for their work on this. GHS is a high achieving school which is good. I hope this sends a message to colleges and universities. How do we recognize students when you have done away with class rankings? (We can still recognize students as we have been which is to recognize the top 5% of students. No final decision has been made at this point.) Is list based on weighted and unweighted grades? (Both, as we wanted to be more inclusive.) Was against doing away with individual class rank, but I think this might be a way to do this. (Class rank is still there, just in a different format.)

7.2 2014-2015 Preliminary Education Fund Budget

The Director of Business Services reported on the 2014-2015 Preliminary Education Fund Budget. Revenue assumptions are from property tax increase based on CPI of 1%, less that 1% of new EAV growth, general state aid at 89% proration, state income tax reduction from 5% to 3.75% on January 1, 2014, increased student fees due to all day kindergarten, stable enrollment, Project Lead the Way, Special Education personnel reimbursement decrease, and transfer of \$1.9 from transportation to education for Special Education purposes. Expenditure assumptions are based on salary increases

per agreement, insurance increases, increased staffing per staffing plan including all day kindergarten, OT/PT services/Mid Valley tuition increases, Technology Plan which includes the 2nd year of the CTP Plan, Project Lead the Way training and implementation, and all day kindergarten supplies and equipment. The overall revenue is up 1.84% and expenditures are up 6.72%, which leaves a surplus of \$75,438. No grant funds were added to the revenue or expenses as we do not have the budget from the state at this time. The Preliminary Budget with the Technology Plan shows a projected reserve fund balance of \$14,974,770. A five year budget history of the Education Fund was provided and showed an upward trend. We will present end of fiscal year numbers at the July BOE meeting.

Board comments, questions, discussion: Is the property tax increase due to the levy? (Yes.) Do you have an idea of how much we will be receiving in grants? (We are estimating \$3.8 million but this has not been confirmed.) Is Project Lead the Way funded by a grant or donation? (It is funded through a private donation.) Thank you to the anonymous donor. Since grants are not included in this budget do we assume it will be equal on both sides? (That is correct.) Thank you to the Finance Committee as their last meeting was very informative. Have there been any recommendations to the Finance Committee regarding where we would cut should our state funding not come through? (No, however we are working on areas that could possibly be affected.) We still need to be looking at other possible grants that could generate revenue for the district. We know what insurance costs are, do we know how many staff will participate based on the threshold? (We will have a better idea after January 1, 2015.)

8. INFORMATION

None.

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
- 9.3 2014-2015 Hazardous Bus Routes Resolution
- 9.4 Technology Purchase, Comprehensive Technology Plan: \$76,119.75, Wireless Access Points, Opt2mized Networks, Inc.
- 9.5 Technology Purchase, Comprehensive Technology Plan: \$28,329, GHS Contest Gym Sound System, Pentegra Systems
- 9.6 Request for Qualifications, architectural services to assist in performing a Ten-Year Health/Life/Safety Survey, DLA Ltd. Architects
- 9.7 Request for Lease, \$8,850, Midwest Transit, lease of an additional Multi-Function School Activity Bus

Motion by Wilson, second by Stith, to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 – 9.7, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION

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

Board members Juby, Stith and Nowak attended the IASB symposium about American Public Schools. It was great to see the real facts. We need to be better about communicating the truth about our district. The Disciplinary Committee met to review the Code of Conduct which will be sent to publication for review. The Facility Task Force met on a number of items and determined that there are some vehicles that need to be replaced. This was a very productive meeting. I was pleased with the decision that Geneva School District has made to implement all-day kindergarten.

Fabyan Elementary has been partnering with a school in Aurora thanks to the principal and Fabyan parents. It's great what they are doing with the students.

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)]; THE PURCHASE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC BODY, INCLUDING MEETINGS HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING WHETHER A PARTICULAR PARCEL SHOULD BE ACQUIRED [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)]; AND COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)]

At 7:58 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Lamb, 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; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; and collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

At 8:05 p.m., following a break to relocate to the Williamsburg conference room, the Board moved into executive session.

At 9:11 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by McCormick, and with unanimous consent the Board returned to open session and relocated to the Williamsburg cafeteria.

At 9:14 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

14. ACTION POSSIBLE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING CONTRACT WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

Motion to accept the Superintendent's contract which will include Professional Development Goals, Board Goals, and Performance Goals was made by Wilson, second by Lamb. On roll call, Ayes, seven (6), Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, one (1) Juby. Absent, none (0). Motion carried.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:17 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Juby, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

RECORDING
SECRETARY