

**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, January 13, 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 7:01 p.m. by President Grosso.

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

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

District administrators present: Shonette Sims, Principal Harrison Street Elementary School; Dr. Andrew Barrett, Director Learning & Teaching; Kelley Munch, Communication Coordinator; 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: Gaily Stanley, Kathy Durrenberger, Elizabeth Hoselton, Brian Maloney, Kris Mather, Sherri Wyllie, Michelle Prieboy, Cath Meives, Jenna Wright, Angie Kosar, Sarah Beir, Charles Menchaca (KC Chronicle), Bob McQuillan, Tina Gaetani.

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:

I'm here representing Northern Illinois Jobs with Justice and to encourage the Geneva 304 Board of Education and administration to write their representatives in support of legislation, HB3754 and SB2627, that would eliminate the Illinois Charter Commission and return control to the Illinois State Board of Education. The Illinois Charter Commission's president designed the statewide charter commission concept for the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). The Charter Commission's goal is to eliminate objections and road blocks to charter schools. The ALEC is an advocacy group with goals that would replace public schools with profit-driven charters like K12 and UNO; replace elected school boards with appointed boards like Chicago and the charter commission; have charter commissions as a regulatory body instead of elected school boards and the Illinois State Board of Education. Everyone was encouraged to attend a public discussion on Thursday, January 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at the Batavia Public Library that is being sponsored by Northern Illinois Jobs with Justice.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 3.1 Regular Session December 9, 2013
- 3.2 Executive Session December 9, 2013
- 3.3 Special Session December 20, 2013

Motion by Nowak, second by Juby, to approve the minutes of Items 3.1 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Wilson, second by Juby, to approve the minutes for Item 3.2 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Lamb, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Juby Grosso. Nays, none (0). Abstained, one (1), McCormick. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Wilson, second by Nowak, to approve the minutes for Item 3.3 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Lamb, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Abstained, two (2), McCormick, Juby. Motion carried unanimously.

4. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

4.1 All-day Kindergarten Update

The Director of Learning and Teaching provided an overview of the work of the Kindergarten Study Committee which included recommendations from the 2008 Kindergarten Study, changes since the 2008 study, considerations in the decision-making process, and recommendations from the current 2013/2014 committee. The 2008 study was used as a foundation baseline for moving forward. From 1976 to about 1997, three-fourths of kindergarten students attended a half-day program. From 1997 to the present, three-fourths of kindergarten students attend a full-day program. Historically, the District has had a influx of students enroll at first grade. Since the 2008 study the District has completed two new elementary schools and completed renovations at two other elementary schools, so there would be space for full-day kindergarten. Since 2008, four neighboring school districts have implemented a full-day kindergarten program, and in the 2014-2015 school year, four more area school districts will implement a full-day kindergarten program.

Kindergarten options researched included:

- 1) Maintain current District half-day model which includes Kindergarten Foundations and Kindergarten Boosters. Cost \$784,650. No potential additional financial implications.
- 2) District-funded, full-day program for all students but parents could choose to have their child leave at mid-day. Intervention supports are embedded in the full-day program. Estimated cost \$1,137,300. Additional cost per year \$352,650. One-time start-up cost \$78,000.
- 3) District-funded, full-day program with a half-day option available at a centralized location for those parents who want it. Estimated cost \$1,201,541. Additional cost per year \$416,891. One-time start-up cost \$78,000.
- 4) Tuition-funded, full-day program. All students attend half-day kindergarten and those families that want full-day program can pay a monthly fee for the additional half-day of enrichment. District-provided subsidy for qualifying families. Kindergarten Foundations and Boosters program provided for special education and identified at-risk students. Unable to determine total estimated cost without knowing student participation rates.

The Committee unanimously recommended a full-day, district-funded kindergarten model; maintenance of current programmatic, instructional, and staffing practices; enhanced academic, enrichment, developmental, and social/emotional programming; a commitment to equity of opportunity for all students; and a commitment to supporting our at-risk students. The implementation of the Common Core State Standards requires the same level of accountability for student learning in kindergarten as in all other grade levels. In a full-day kindergarten model, we can build rigor and make changes at the same time we are implementing changes in all the elementary grade levels. At this time, Illinois school districts are required to offer a half-day kindergarten program even if they offer a full-day program.

Copies of the kindergarten study presentation documents will be posted on the District website.

Board discussion, comments, questions:

Thanks to the Committee for the research, report and presentation. What is the average number of

kindergarten students per class? (About 20-22.) Research indicates that by third grade most academic gains tend to level out by third grade. Would like to see information about the makeup of school districts with full-day, district-funded kindergarten programs and full-day kindergarten, tuition programs. Several years ago when the Board considered cuts, the kindergarten assistants were kept intact recognizing that the teachers were providing instruction in a time limited half-day for students. Would like to know how other districts with full-day kindergarten programs use instructional assistants. While there wasn't a formal vote on this topic in 2008, there was unanimous Board member support for the goal of a full-day kindergarten program in Geneva 304 but we didn't know the cost. The Common Core State Standards provides consistency to all of the school districts in the state. Appreciated the inclusion of the bibliography, which will also be available on our website. Common Core requires more benchmarking and if we continue with a half-day kindergarten program, our students will miss something. If we go to a district-funded, full-day program will we receive additional general state aid? (For approximately 325 students we could receive \$32,000 to \$33,000 more in general state aid.) Would we qualify for any categorical grants? (No, don't believe so.) Would the registration fee for full-day kindergarten be about double what it is now? (Yes and that would provide about \$12,000 more in fees.) Would like to see what the curriculum for full-day kindergarten would look like. (It would be structured so most of the important topics would occur in the morning but if students opt for a half-day program they won't be getting the exact same program as full-day. Additionally, a sample of a full-day curriculum was included in the 2008 study.) I'm not a fan of the tuition-based, full-day kindergarten option with parents paying for public education. I don't want education to be delivered like athletics. (Would need to determine goals for the full-day program but increased academic rigor and enhanced enrichment, developmental, and social emotional program are recommended and the goal for all Geneva students.) The presentation only mentioned four elementary schools with space, but there are six elementary schools. Is there space for full-day kindergarten at all six? (Yes, with some changes, there would be space in all six elementary schools for full-day kindergarten.) With the projected additional general state aid and increase in registration fees, we'd be looking at closer to \$42,000 to \$45,000 more to help offset the cost of full-day kindergarten.

The Board will discuss this topic again at the January 27, 2014 Board meeting with the goal of receiving additional feedback from the community, and receiving a formal recommendation and action by the Board on February 10, 2014.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent reported the following: we are nearing the end of the first semester and testing will occur this week; Friday, January 17th is a half-day of student attendance and Patriots' Day at the middle schools; Monday, January 20th schools are closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day; and due to the two days schools were closed last week because of the extremely low temperatures, the last day of school have been moved to Tuesday, June 3, 2014.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

None

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 Policy Updates - First Reading

7.1.1 Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity

Policies 1430.07 Revised; 3430.07 Revised; 4430.07 New
Revisions to comply with ADA regarding reasonable accommodation; new policy for support staff.

7.1.2 Use of Tobacco

Policies 1615 Revised; 3215 Revised; 4215 Revised; 5512 Revised; 7434 Revised
Revisions to extend prohibition to electronic and other substitute forms of cigarettes.

7.1.3 Military Leave

Policies 1430.04 Delete; 3430.04 Delete; 4430.04 Delete
Language is covered in Policy 3430.05 Family Military Leave.

7.1.4 Criminal History Record Check

Policies 1521 Revised; 3121 Revised; 4121 Revised
Revised to include language pursuant to Public Act 97-0248 and current statute.

7.1.5 Physical Examination

Policies 1560 Revised; 3160 Revised; 4160 Revised
Revised to comply with HIPAA, ADA, and GINA confidentiality statute provisions.

7.1.6 Student Supervision and Welfare

Policy 1613 Revised
Revised to conform with similar policies for teachers and support staff.

The Policy Committee Chair reported that the policies had been reviewed by the administration and the Policy Committee and were presented for a first reading by the Board. She thanked the Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services for providing the rationale for the revisions, deletions, and addition of the policies. These policies will come back to the Board for second reading and adoption.

8. INFORMATION

8.1 FOIA Requests

Received = 3. Total Costs = \$105.19. Total Employee Hours = 3.75 hours.

Ellis, Sandra, 12/3/13, requested an electronic copy (DVD) of the video of the 12/2/2013 Public Forum meeting. Employee hours to complete/respond = 55 mins. Cost to complete/respond = \$16.50.

Ellis, Sandra, 12/10/2013, requested an electronic copy (DVD) of the video of the 12/9/2013 Board Meeting and the Finance Committee Meeting. Employee hours to complete/respond = 1 hour/45 minutes. Cost to complete/respond = \$30.37.

Vorkapic, T., requested a summary of the revenues and expenses for the food service program for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school year as prepared by Sodexo or the District; any documentation of an annual financial guarantee to District from Sodexo for operation of the food service program for 2013-2014 school year. Employee hours to complete/respond = 1 hour/5 minutes. Cost to complete/respond = \$58.32.

8.2 2013 FOIA Summary

January 11, 2013 through December 18, 2013: Total FOIAs = 55; Total Cost = \$5,680.90

8.3 GHS Alpine Club Out-of-state Trip Requests

8.4 HLERK December Newsletter

No discussion.

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

Madden, Shannon, GHS, Math (2nd Semester) .40 FTE, Start Date 1/21/2014

Resignations Certified

Battaglia, Tom, GHS, Foreign Language/German, .40 FTE, Effective 6/3/2014

Long-term Substitutes Certified

Bauer, Katherine, FES, Grade 3, 1.0 FTE, 1/23/2014 - 4/28/2014 FMLA / 4/29/2014 - 6/3/2014 LOA

Beranek, Steven, GHS, Social Studies, 1.0 FTE, 2/3/2014 - 6/3/2014

Kuehl, Sandy, MCS, Grade 4, 1.0 FTE, 3/14/2014 - 5/16/2014

New Hires Support

Connolly, Mary, Garage, On-call Bus Driver Sub, 9 Month, Start Date 12/6/2013

Tobin, Sue, HSS, Reading Tutor, 9 Month, Start Date 12/19/2013

Dibble, Robin, HES, Temporary Classroom Assistant, 9 Month, Start Date 1/8/2014

Hayes, William, MCS, Technology Assistant, 9 Month, Start Date 1/8/2014

Holcombe, Laura, FES, Technology Assistant, 9 Month, Start Date 1/8/2014

Rodriguez, Angel, Custodian 2nd Shift, 12 Month, Start Date 1/6/2014

Wilke, Kelly, HES, Special Education Assistant, 9 Month, Start Date 1/8/2014

Cabrera, Michael, GHS, Security/25 hrs/wk, 9 Month, 1/13/2014

Yow, Julie, HES, Temporary Classroom Assistant, 9 Month, Start Date 1/14/2014

Retirement Support

McElligott, Robert, Garage, Director of Transportation, 1.0 FTE, Effective 6/30/2014

9.3 Technology Purchase Capital Outlay Plan, Computer Replacement: \$43,190.00, Heartland Business Systems, IL State Contract Pricing

9.4 Acceptance of Gifts, Grants & Bequests: Fabyan Foundation \$295,800; Harrison Street School PTO \$4,172.40; Williamsburg Elementary School PTO \$3,339.35

A Board member commented that the Fabyan Foundation has done so much for the District through the years and wondered if the trustees could attend a future Board meeting so they could be thanked in person.

Motion by Wilson, second by Nowak, to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.4 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Juby, Lamb, Grosso. Nays, 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 reported/commented on the following:

Requested that the Finance Committee Chair provide a recommendation regarding the District's long-term debt reduction/abatement options to the full Board at the January 27, 2014 Board meeting. Attendance at a Williamsburg Elementary School "Hour of Code" presentation; a parent/teacher forum on building resiliency in our students at Western Avenue Elementary School; a Geneva Academic Foundation meeting where plans are underway for their January 24th karaoke night; and eighth-grade Parent Night at Geneva High School.

12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

13. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:23 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Stith, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED February 3, 2014 _____

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

RECORDING
SECRETARY