



**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, February 24, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Coultrap Educational Services Center, 227 North Fourth Street, Geneva, Illinois.

**1. CALL TO ORDER (Policy 2:220)**

- 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, Vice President Taylor Egan, Larry Cabeen, Policy Committee Chair Leslie Juby, Finance Committee Chair Dave Lamb, Mike McCormick, Alicia Saxton.  
 Late: None. Absent: None.

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

District staff present: Dr. Dean Romano, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services; Dr. Andy Barrett, Assistant Superintendent for Learning & Teaching; Dr. Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Services; Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others: Kate Hertz, Lisa Meister, Gina Nolan, Julie Cesaron, Lori Dowd, Jessica Breugelmanns, Cathy Fuller.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)**

- 2.1 Regular Session, February 10, 2020
- 2.2 Executive Session, February 10, 2020

Motion by McCormick, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 2.1-2.2. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Egan, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

**3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 3.1 Tradition of Excellence Award: Geneva Students (Policy 5451)

No students were recognized.

- 3.2 Blended Learning Presentation

Dr. Barrett and staff from Geneva High School presented to the Board on Blended Learning and how it has worked in the classroom. Blended learning affords students the opportunity to learn in part through online learning, with some control over time, place, path, and/or pace and to work on skills in small group settings; allowing the teacher to give individualized instruction. It is not traditional teacher-led instruction, a flipped classroom, or an "off period" for teachers and students. Blended learning offers different opportunities for students compared to Tech-rich Instruction. Currently, at the high school, there are five formalized blended courses that provide a choice of traditional or blended

options for students. The blended classes are closed campus, students in the program are identified with a specific lanyard, students with a D or F are required to attend all class sessions and work with the teacher, and students who are successful in the program are self-directed learners with good time-management skills. Lisa Meister, Gina Nolan and Kate Hertz shared how blended learning works in their classrooms, saying that students collaborate through OneNote, have a choice in summative assessments, work independently, can self-pace, rotate through the classroom for small-group sessions and can work outside the classroom on blended days. Dr. Barrett shared that as we look ahead, we will continue to support and encourage organic growth, use of these types of practices will continue to expand, we will maintain our focus, and we will keep the Board and community informed.

Board comments, questions, concerns: What's the participation rate between the traditional and blended classes? (For health, there is an early bird session each semester and out of the five classes, there is one section of blended. For the four English classes, the first semester they were all traditional and the second semester there were two that were blended. It's still more common for students to take traditional classes.) The assessment of the mastery of the subject, between the traditional and the blended, are we seeing comparable outcomes? (It's not easy to compare apple-to-apple, because of the difference in the students. For the speaking assessment in the first semester for the students in the blended class, it was a conversation format, but for traditional, it was more informal for the students.) Is there a different number of students per class with the blended versus the traditional? (No.)

#### 4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

*Board Member Code of Conduct #8 - "I will be sufficiently informed about and prepared to act on the specific issues before the Board, and remain reasonable knowledgeable about the local, State, national, and global education issues."*

Leslie Juby shared that the Governor has come out with a two-tiered budget. This means that some things will be dependent on whether we change our tax structure. Unfortunately, one of the things is educational funding. There will be \$150 million held in reserve for educational funding until November, when we know if the new income tax passes. If it doesn't, then they will go back and determine if they can find money other places to fund evidence-based or if they will be shorting the brand-new evidence-based funding by \$150 million. There is a chance that SB 3668 could have more of an effect on us. This bill would limit medical exemptions for immunizations and remove, if not all, some of the religious exemptions. It would also allow for students 13 years or older to get vaccinations without their parent's consent. We would only be the sixth state in the nation to do this, if this bill is adopted.

#### 5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Policy 3:40)

The Superintendent shared that this is one of the busier times of the year with evaluations. We have both teacher and principal evaluations going on, and the deadline to complete them is March 1<sup>st</sup>. He enjoys getting out to see the instructional leaders doing their work with their staff, which requires a lot of collaboration. A reminder that there is no school this Friday, because we have the Kane County ROE Institute Day, and we will be hosting several sessions in our district. Thank you to our staff for their expertise and willingness to share. We are entering the assessment period, so students are preparing for testing soon in science, math and reading. We will also be giving the Illinois Youth Survey to our students to help identify social and emotional needs and pressures that they may have, so that we can support them.

#### 6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

- 6.1 Policy Updates: Second Reading – **Updated and Reviewed** (Policy 2:240)
  - 6.1.1 Policy 8:20, Community Use of School Facilities – **Reviewed**
  - 6.1.2 Policy 8:25, Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities – **Reviewed**
  - 6.1.3 Policy 8:70, Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities – **Reviewed**
  - 6.1.4 Policy 8:80, Gifts, and Requests – **Reviewed**
  - 6.1.5 Policy 8:90, Parent Organizations and Agencies – **Reviewed**
  - 6.1.6 Policy 8:95, Relations with Parents – **Revised**
  - 6.1.7 Policy 8:100, Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies – **Reviewed**

Motion by Juby, second by Cabeen, to approve the above-listed policies, items 6.1.1-6.1.7. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Egan, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

6.2 Annual Resolution for Dismissal: Certified Teachers Covering Leaves of Absence (Policy 5:200)  
Dr. Law shared that every year around this time is when we do an honorable dismissal of teachers who are covering leaves of absence. He is recommending the Board approve the resolution.

Motion by Juby, second by Egan, to approve the above-listed resolution, item 6.2. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Egan, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

## 7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION

7.1 Policy Updates: First Reading – **Updated and Reviewed** (Policy 2:240)

7.1.1 Policy 4:10, Fiscal and Business Management - **Revised**

7.1.2 Policy 7:270, Administering Medicines to Students – **Revised**

7.1.3 Policy 8:10, Connection with the Community – **Revised**

These policies will come back at the next Board meeting for a second reading.

## 8. INFORMATION

8.1 Board Meeting/Presentation Schedule

8.2 FOIA Requests

8.3 Suspension Report

## 9. CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires (Policies 3:50, 5:200, 5:280)

### New Hires Certified Staff

Bechtle, Laila, HES, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 8/17/20

Klahn, Alyssa, GHS, Science, 1.0 FTE, effective 8/17/20

Miller, Aly, GHS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 8/17/20

Rickli, Rachel, GHS, Science, 1.0 FTE, effective 8/17/20

Schout, Andrew, GHS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 8/17/20

### Resignations Certified Staff

Highmark, Meredith, HES, Grade 1, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/29/20

Lorenz, Ashley, MCS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/29/20

Mejia, Sarah, GHS, Math, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/29/20

Potts, Michelle, GHS, Learning Behavior Specialist, .9 FTE, effective 5/29/20

### Leave of Absence Certified Staff

Klos, Julia, GMSN, Language Arts, 2020-2021 2<sup>nd</sup> year, 1.0 FTE

Wallace, Erin, Grade 4, 2020-2021 2<sup>nd</sup> year, 1.0 FTE

### Leave of Absence-Returning Certified Staff

Howlett, Kathryn, WES, Grade 3, 1.0 FTE

Bess, Jessica, GMSN, Language Arts, 1.0 FTE

Lindsey, Molly, GMSS, Language Arts, 1.0 FTE

Simmons, Brianne, HSS, Grade 2, 1.0 FTE

### Long-Term Substitutes Certified Staff

Madden, Shannon, GHS, Math, 1.0 FTE, effective 2/24/20-3/13/20

### Family and Medical Leave Certified Staff

Caputo, Lauren, WAS, Student Services Coordinator, effective 8/17/20-10/30/20

Schwartz, Jennifer, GHS, Math, effective 2/24/20-3/13/20

### Resignations Support Staff

Mercado, Chad, GMSS, Special Education Assistant, effective 2/27/20

### Family and Medical Leave Support Staff

Bauer, Margarita, GHS, Special Education Assistant, effective 2/24/20-Intermittent

Fladung, Vicki, CO, Network Manager, effective 3/12/20-4/9/20

Haas, Catherine, HSS, Special Education Assistant, effective 2/13/20-TBD

Walker, Matt, CO, Maintenance, effective 2/20/20-8/20/20

Retirement Support Staff

Wiggins, Charlie, HSS, Custodian, effective 2/12/20

9.2 Accounts Payable (Policy 4:50)

9.3 Monthly Financial Report – January (4:50)

9.4 Pay Request #5: \$11,339, Johnson Controls, Direct Digital Controls Upgrade at MCS

9.5 Pay Request #5: \$46,826, Johnson Controls, Direct Digital Controls Upgrade at GMSS

Motion by Juby, second by McCormick, to approve the above-listed, items 9.1-9.5. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Egan, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

**10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Per Board Policy 2:230, 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.*  
None.

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

*Policy Committee, Finance Committee, Boundary Task Force, Communications Task Force, Facilities Task Force, Technology 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*

The Facilities Task Force met today, and we should see a capital project report at the next Finance and Board meetings. The administration did a roof assessment, if anyone would like to see it. Scott Ney does a great job of getting these projects done, and at the same time, making sure that they fall within or below budget. The Communication Task Force met recently and talked about how to continue their community engagement series. They are looking for ways to engage the public as we look to the future. They talked about having forums that would give the public an opportunity to ask questions. They would appreciate any Board feedback on this. A Board member attended the recent Insurance Committee meeting, where they learned about how insurance rates are set. It was nice to see how our district works to save money. The committee will meet again next week. A Board member attended the Career Café at Geneva High School two weeks ago, where they said it was exciting to see the students and what they are doing in their vocational classes. They also attended the Raising Successful Students program at Williamsburg Elementary School where they talked about how to be kind and how to define success, and so much more. The next day, they attended the Voices for Mental Health at the High School, where they got to listen to students have amazing conversations on removing stigma and watching our language. Seven different schools were involved in this event.

**12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES [5 ILCS 120/(c)(2)]. [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)] (Policy 2:220)**

At 7:56 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Egan, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to collective negotiating between the public body and its employees or their representatives. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Egan, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

At 8:34 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:35 p.m., motion by Cabeen second by Juby, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bonnie Johnson

RECORDING  
SECRETARY