

**Committee of the Whole Meeting – 6:30 pm**  
**Tuesday, November 8, 2016**  
Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District #424  
**Genoa-Kingston High School - Learning Center**  
980 Park Avenue Genoa, IL 60135

1. Call to Order
2. Building Usage Public Discussion - 2017-2018 SY
3. PRESS Policies for Review
4. Tentative Tax Levy Review
5. Delegate Review for Joint Conference
6. Superintendent Search
7. Superintendent/Board Communication
8. Future Agenda Items
9. Closed session for discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)
10. Reconvene to Open Session
11. Adjournment

**Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – 6:30 pm  
Tuesday, November 8, 2016**

Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District #424

**Genoa-Kingston High School - Learning Center**

980 Park Avenue Genoa, IL 60135

**Call to Order**

President Paul Kruse called the Genoa-Kingston CUSD #424 Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Present: Taunya Fischer, David Cleveland, Kristen Andrews, Heather Edwards, Barb Gustafson, Kristin Brynteson, and Paul Kruse.

Absent: None

**Building Usage - 2017-2018 SY**

Mr. Burgess prepared a Power Point to share with the public as a communication piece regarding the decision the board made at the October 25, 2016 board meeting to close Davenport Elementary School for the 2016-2017 school year. He also prepared a draft month by month guide to share with the board of items to be accomplished by G-K staff in closing a building and preparing the two elementary schools for three class levels.

Kruse asked the public for questions prior to starting the building usage discussion and reviewing the Power Point.

A public question was asked regarding information discussed or posted on the website about future building repairs as well as how the board came to the conclusion to close a building. It was also asked if the current Power Point would be available on the district website.

Mr. Burgess stated all building usage meeting notes and Power Points are available on the districts website for review. He also stated recent board meeting minutes would be released and available on the website after board approval on Tuesday, November 15, 2016. He further stated Davenport Elementary School was chosen to close due to energy costs.

Andrews stated maintenance costs for each building was discussed as well as Kingston maintaining a community school.

Gustafson stated Davenport Elementary School was chosen as well due to it being landlocked.

**Monthly Plan:**

Mr. Burgess shared a month by month comprehensive building transition calendar with the board. He also publicly thanked Dr. Steinbach for helping to develop the timeline and transition plan.

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Mr. Burgess stated the monthly plan is a working document and the staff at Davenport will take time to review the plan during their next PLC time.

Kruse stated the monthly plan is a comprehensive plan to begin the transition.

Edwards asked about the future of summer school.

Mr. Burgess stated the district will continue to have an annual summer school program.

Cleveland addressed the public question stating the September 27, 2016 meeting minutes would address many questions and are currently available on the website.

### **PRESS Policies for Review**

Mr. Burgess shared the October PRESS Policies for Review. He also stated *Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA)* is very important in this policy review by PRESS. Mr. Burgess asked the board to review the current policies and advise him of any questions in relation to the *ESSA* or any other policy. Mr. Burgess highlighted several policies that impact board decisions. He also stated many of the policies are terminology changes. Mr. Burgess stated the board also needs to adopt a policy for board travel costs by February.

Kruse recommended creating a draft for a travel cost policy.

The October PRESS Policies will be placed on the Tuesday, November 15, 2016 Board of Education Meeting agenda for approval of 30 day public display.

### **Tentative Tax Levy Review**

#### **Levy Information for 11-8-16 Board Meeting**

Dr. Shortridge shared the levy worksheets with the board. He also stated in order to insure that all available local funds which the district uses to educate students, the levy process is necessary. He further stated due to CPI being low, we do not believe it is necessary to levy for more than 5% over last year's extension. Dr. Shortridge stated speaking to the DeKalb County Assessor's Office and has received the following estimate of EAV and new construction for Tax Year 2016:

- EAV: \$178 Million- up \$7M from last year.
- New Construction- \$1.03M- this is not capped, and represents an increase of nearly \$1M from last year.

CPI was 0.7% last year, which in a tax capped district is the maximum amount of increase the district can receive this year, not including new construction.

Dr. Shortridge stated we believe that the District should request funds at an increase of about 5% over last year's levy to ensure that the district accesses all monies to which it is entitled. The 5% increase should allow plenty of room to levy all accessible dollars under the tax cap while protecting

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the District in case the Assessor makes adjustments in the EAV and New Construction estimates in the spring.

Submitted by Brad Shortridge, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

Dr. Shortridge stated it was not necessary to hold a public hearing but will prepare a presentation for the December board meeting to talk about the levy process. He also stated the board will need to adopt the tentative levy at the November board meeting.

Kruse stated the board would benefit from the tax levy presentation.

The approval to adopt the Tentative Levy will take place at the Tuesday, November 15, 2016 board meeting. A tax levy presentation will take place at the Tuesday, December 13, 2016 board meeting.

### **Delegate Review for Joint Conference**

The board reviewed and discussed the IASB resolution recommendations for the upcoming Triple I Conference in Chicago.

Kruse shared information about the IASB resolution process. He also stated that the Genoa-Kingston Board of Education submitted a resolution of "*Clock Hours vs Minutes*" to the committee in which the committee has recommended to adopt. Kruse stated the process is difficult and recommendations are not given lightly. He also stated the board should be proud of this recommendation.

Edwards expressed concerns over resolution #1 *Special Needs Students*. She also asked about the credits of special needs students prior to the age of 21. Edwards was not in favor of adopting the special needs resolution.

Mr. Burgess stated the resolution seemed to be financial. He also shared concerns over *IDEA* and the adoption of the *Special Needs Resolution* resolution.

The board expressed concerns of how the *Special Needs Resolution* would impact federal law.

Brynteson expressed concerns about resolution #2 *Student Readiness* and the committee's recommendation to not adopt the resolution. She also commented on local control and ESSA as possible reasons for the recommendation to not adopt the *Student Readiness* resolution.

The board will further review resolutions #1 *Special Needs Students* and #2 *Student Readiness*. The board also asked for guidance from Director of Student Services, Karen Simmons regarding resolution #1 *Special Needs Students*.

The board will continue the Delegate Review of resolutions at the board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2016.

### **Superintendent Search**

The board discussed potential interview dates for future board meeting postings.

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Kruse stated superintendent candidate interviews took place last week November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>. He also stated potential dates for second interviews will be discussed in closed session.

**Superintendent/Board Communication**

**Playoff games at G-K**

Mr. Burgess stated the high school football playoff games continue this Friday, November 11, 2016 at Johnsburg. He also stated if G-K wins the next game could be at home. Mr. Burgess commented on the success of the high school football team and publicly thanked everyone for their support.

**Parent Teacher Conferences**

Mr. Burgess stated parent teacher conferences went well. He also stated there was a lot of positive feedback this year.

**Google classrooms and upcoming institute**

Mr. Burgess stated Dr. Steinbach will continue Google tutorials each Wednesday night through the month of November. He also commented on the upcoming January Teacher's Institute Day.

**Incubator Class mentor meeting**

Mr. Burgess commented on the incubator class and students currently working with mentors.

**School Board Member Day – November 15, 2016**

Mr. Burgess stated November 15, 2016 is National School Board Member Day.

**Future Agenda Items**

Tentative Levy  
Policies for 30 Day Public Display  
Travel Expense Control Act (HB 4379)  
Delegate Review of Resolutions  
Superintendent Search

**Closed session for discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)**

A motion was made by Cleveland, and seconded by Brynteson, to convene to closed session for discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)/(1) at 7:10 pm

Ayes: Fischer, Cleveland, Andrews, Edwards, Gustafson, Brynteson, Kruse.  
Motion Carried.

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**Reconvene to Open Session**

The board reconvened to open session at 8:43 pm

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Fischer, and seconded by Brynteson, to adjourn the Genoa Kingston Board of Education, Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Voice Vote All

Ayes: 7

Nay:0

Motion Carried

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Paul Kruse, Board President

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Heather Edwards, Board Secretary