

Committee of the Whole Meeting – 6:30 pm
Tuesday, January 9, 2018
Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District #424
Genoa-Kingston High School Community Room
980 Park Avenue Genoa, IL 60135

1. Call to Order
2. Presentation - DeKalb County Sheriff's Department
3. High School Graduation
4. Building Usage
5. 2018-2019 Public School Calendar
6. Superintendent Evaluations
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)(1)
10. Reconvene to Open Session
11. Personnel Action
12. Adjournment

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980 Park Avenue Genoa, IL 60135

Call to Order

Vice President, Barb Gustafson called the Genoa-Kingston CUSD #424 Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Present: John Shipley, David Cleveland, Kristin Brynteson, Jake Wesner, and Barb Gustafson.

Board Member, Kristen Andrews attended the meeting via conference call in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/7.

President Paul Kruse joined the meeting at 6:34 pm.

Absent: None.

Presentation - DeKalb County Sheriff's Department

The DeKalb County Sheriff's Department along with a representative from Pyramid Consulting and community member, Jim Slater, shared a presentation requesting board approval to place a communications tower on the property of Genoa-Kingston High School, between the high school and Russell Woods Forest Preserve. The tower would allow the current public safety communications network to update to a digital system. The update would allow the use of talk groups instead of frequencies without interruption.

A representative from Pyramid Consulting shared details of the new communication system and tower. He also stated the county will gain many more channels and be able to share information instantly. He further commented on the new system allowing for secured apps and talk channel applications. He also stated the tower will be approximately 400' tall.

Cleveland asked about elevation numbers and backup system.

Pyramid Consulting stated the tower elevation numbers are related to sea level elevation. He also stated the current fiber optic system would be a good backup system and each tower could operate as its own entity. Pyramid consulting further commented on working within FCC and FAA regulations and the project taking approximately 10 months to complete.

The Board shared concerns over district costs, neighboring subdivisions and homes, the nearby forest preserve, environmental factors, secured fencing and the use of public utilities.

Shipley asked about access to the tower and any other proposed sites. He also asked about the agreement being a lease or an MOU and if the District would have rights to the tower to include any revenue generated by the tower.

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Pyramid consulting stated there were three other sites proposed. The consultant also stated they have permission to use the forest preserve driveway to access the tower for installation and future maintenance.

Mr. O'Daniell stated the school's attorney is in the process of reviewing the MOU prior to the Board taking action.

Sheriff Scott stated the project is a huge investment and the county is investing \$4M to update public safety communications. He further stated it was not the intent to share revenue but rather serve the communication needs of the county.

Cleveland stating he would like to review the MOU but does not see a problem with approving placement of the tower on the District's property.

Mr. O'Daniell commented on the review of the MOU and asked Pyramid Consulting for a timeline in order for the Board to take action and project to be completed as planned.

Pyramid Consulting stated the project is a six-month process and to go "Live" by October the Board would need to take action in February.

Cleveland asked Mr. Ratliff if he had any concerns over the District's property being used for the new public communications tower.

Mr. Ratliff had no concerns.

Mr. O'Daniell stated the Board will review the MOU prior to taking action at the Board of Education Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 2018.

High School Graduation

Mr. O'Daniell commented on previous conversations regarding a parent's request to have high school graduation changed allowing her to attend both her daughter's graduations scheduled for the same day. Mr. O'Daniell commented on the Board's recommendation not to change the 2018 high school graduation day or time. He also stated the Board also recommended the student be presented her diploma at the beginning of the ceremony to allow as much time as possible for the student and mother to attend the other graduation.

Kruse stated it was the Board's recommendation to leave the 2018 high school graduation date and time the same and for administration to communicate the Board's recommendation to the mother.

Building Usage

Cleveland shared a concern presented to him by the Genoa Women's Club over the rising cost of the building usage for the Wonderful World of Christmas event. He also commented on the Wonderful World of Christmas providing annual scholarships to graduating high school students for

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several years. Cleveland commented on language in the current building usage application and asked if charges could be eliminated for event work completed during normal school hours. He also asked the Board for ideas to help the organization to be more cost effective.

Kruse shared concerns over trying to choose which groups to charge fees to.

Mr. O'Daniell stated the District should not get into the business of picking and choosing who should pay fees. He also stated the building usage forms are for everyone.

Gustafson asked about the amount of time spent to set up the Wonderful World of Christmas.

Mr. Ratliff stated there is a great deal of time spent preparing for the Wonderful World of Christmas as well as setting up the event. He also commented on transporting every table from every building to be used for the event.

Mrs. Volkening stated the rising cost is due to the amount of labor that is needed to prepare for the Wonderful World of Christmas. She also stated there are lot of things the Genoa Women's Club can do to reduce the cost of building usage.

Dr. Shortridge commented on the language in the building usage form stating it addresses being friendly to all community groups.

Cleveland stated he understood and appreciated the explanation and language in the building usage application. He also stated he will try and help the Genoa Women's Club find cost effective alternatives.

Mr. O'Daniell recommended reaching out to the high school guidance office for students that may want to earn community service hours and help with the event in an effort to solve the problem.

Kruse stated the Building Usage Policy remains as is.

Mr. O'Daniell publicly acknowledged the positive way Dr. Shortridge recently handled a conversation with another community member.

2018-2019 Public School Calendar

Mr. O'Daniell shared a draft of the 2018-2019 Public School Calendar with the Board. He also stated the building administrators as well as the union have reviewed the calendar and shared no concerns. He further stated continuing to align spring break, start and end dates with KEC for continuity in the future. Mr. O'Daniell asked that the 2018-2019 Public School Calendar be approved at the January 23, 2018 Board of Education Meeting.

Superintendent Evaluation

Mr. O'Daniell shared the new Superintendent Evaluation Tool developed by the Board last year for review.

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Kruse commented on the Board developing the new evaluation tool as well as the items and timeline of the evaluation.

Mr. O'Daniell commented on the goals in the evaluation tool being tied to the strategic plan. He also stated a parent survey will be available next week and run for two weeks. He further stated the survey results will be entered into the Superintendent Evaluation Tool for the Board to review.

Gustafson recommended a closed session meeting inviting administrators and directors to share information and review of the superintendent.

Kruse recommended Superintendent Evaluations be added to future agendas.

Superintendent/Board Communication

Genoa Township Park District Agreement

Mr. O'Daniell shared information regarding the first Installment of Genoa Township Park District Intergovernmental Agreement dated November 14, 2017 was received on December 27, 2017 to meet the MOU.

Kishwaukee Division Dinner Meeting

Mr. O'Daniell shared information regarding the IASB Kishwaukee Division Dinner Meeting to be held on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at Geneva High School. He asked that any Board member attending email Mrs. Mulso.

Future Agenda Items

Board of Education Meeting 1-23-18

GES Presentation - John Francis
Excellence in Education Nominees
DeKalb County Sheriff's Dept. Agreement
2018-2019 Public School Calendar
Superintendent Evaluations
Tentative Budget Designation
Economic Interest Statements

Committee of the Whole Meeting 2-13-18

Superintendent Evaluations
Registration and Student Fees
Vision 2020 – Expo
District Strategic Plan
Review of Closed Session Minutes and Audio

Board also discussed a future closed session for review of the Strategic Plan as well as Superintendent Evaluations.

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).

Closed Session was not needed at this meeting.

Reconvene to Open Session

No reconvene.

Personnel Action

No personnel action needed.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Brynteson, seconded by Gustafson, to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 7:55 pm.

Voice vote: All

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Paul Kruse, Board President

Kristen Andrews, Board Secretary