

Committee of the Whole Meeting – 6:30 pm
Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District #424
Genoa-Kingston High School - Learning Center
980 Park Avenue Genoa, IL 60135

1. Call to Order
2. Recognition of GKHS Dance Team and ILMEA State Students
3. Transportation
4. Registration and Student Fees
5. Vision 2020
6. GKMS - Cross Country
7. Administrative Review of Closed Session Meeting Minutes
8. Administrative Review of Closed Session Audio Minutes
9. Davenport Update
10. Superintendent/Board Communication
11. Future Agenda Items
12. Closed Session for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District in compliance with 5 ILCS 12/2(c)/1.
13. Reconvene to Open Session
14. Adjournment

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Tuesday, February 14, 2017
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 6:30 pm.

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

Absent: Kristin Brynteson

Recognition of GKHS Dance Team and ILMEA State Students

Mr. Burgess recognized and congratulated the GKHS Dance Team for taking third place at state. He also congratulated the ILMEA state students on their accomplishments.

Genoa-Kingston Dance Team:

Sonia Gaytan - Meghan Kohler - Anna Raimondi - Taryn Sarto - Jetta Golembiewski - Cassidy Loft
Carolyn McCarthy - Jenifer Sauber - Alyssa Vicary - Rebecca Baert - Madeline Hill - Madelyn McCarthy
Head Coach: Hannah Bohn - Asst. Coach: Kelly Bolander

ILMEA:

Christina Lopez

Transportation

Mr. Burgess shared potential transportation costs from Transportation Director, Cam Fradkin regarding the request from Walnut Street Daycare for the 2017-2018 school year.

Edwards asked several questions about the potential transportation costs.

Mrs. Fradkin stated potential costs were calculated by several factors including; fuel, mileage, surrounding districts fees and current pay to ride fees for students within the 1 ½ mile ring. She also recommended creating a corporate rate for businesses to maintain separation from the pay to ride program currently offered by the district. Mrs. Fradkin commented on the cost and amount of time involved with transporting Walnut Street Daycare students to Genoa Elementary School.

Cleveland asked what the district could potentially charge the daycare center and for recommendations or alternatives for transporting Walnut Street Daycare students to Genoa Elementary School.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Page 2

Mr. Burgess commented on potential costs to transport each child and asked the board if they would want to offer a corporate rate to the daycare center or an alternate option to their transportation concerns.

Andrews asked if Walnut Street Daycare Center had considered running two routes using their own vans. She also asked how early students could arrive at Genoa Elementary School in the morning.

Mr. Francis shared concerns over other businesses and future transportation requests. He further stated students that are dropped off or walk may arrive no earlier than 7:45 am. He also stated bus students arrive as their bus schedule dictates and could arrive as early as 7:25 am.

Kruse asked if Genoa Elementary School Principal, Mr. Francis would allow Walnut Street Daycare Center to begin dropping off students as early as 7:25 am. Kruse stated this would allow Walnut Street Daycare Center enough time to run two routes and accommodate all students needing transportation to Genoa Elementary School.

Mr. Francis stated he was in favor of allowing Walnut Street Daycare Center students to be dropped off as early as 7:25 am.

Mrs. Fradkin stated there are currently 62 Genoa Elementary School students living in the Willow Glen Subdivision near Walnut Street Daycare Center that do not have transportation due to living within the 1 ½ mile ring. She also stated busses are already at capacity.

Gustafson shared concerns over providing a bus service to businesses.

Cleveland was in favor of providing transportation for people that were willing to pay for the service if the district could accommodate the students.

Gustafson stated busses are currently at capacity. She also shared concerns over future capacity projections.

Cleveland commented on the district's current bus capacity. He also recommended offering Walnut Street Daycare Center an alternate option. Cleveland was in favor of allowing Walnut Street Daycare Center to drop off students earlier at Genoa Elementary School allowing the daycare center to make two trips using their own vans for transportation.

Mr. Burgess was pleased to be able to offer Walnut Street Daycare a friendly alternative. He also stated Mr. Francis will work with Walnut Street Daycare for drop off times. Mr. Burgess stated he will write a response to Walnut Street Daycare regarding the boards response.

Kristin Brynteson joined the meeting at 6:43 pm.

Registration and Student Fees

Mr. Burgess shared the district's current registration fees as well as registration fees of surrounding districts.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Page 3

Mr. Burgess commented on Genoa-Kingston being very reasonable whereas surrounding districts having several add on fees. Mr. Burgess recommended a slight increase for the 2017-2018 school year. He further stated to be aware of the actual fees collected.

Dr. Shortridge commented on approximately 30% of students eligible for free lunch do not pay registration fees and collecting approximately 75% of the remaining student fees.

Mr. Burgess recommended a \$10 increase due to technology. He also commented on the additional cost of KEC. He further stated registration fees have not been increased in two years and lunch prices will be reviewed in the next few months.

Cafeteria Director, Regan Peterson stated having information regarding lunch prices next month.

Kruse asked the board for a recommendation regarding the \$10 increase.

Cleveland asked which fees would be impacted by the \$10 increase.

Mr. Burgess stated the \$10 increase would only be for registration fees and that the district does not currently charge athletic fees for participating in sports.

Edwards shared concerns over raising registration fees K-12. She also shared concerns over raising registration fees for younger students that do not participate in sports. Edwards recommended reinstating a sports fee for middle school and high school students.

Dr. Shortridge stated reinstating a sports fee is not recommended and would be detrimental to the sports programs.

Kruse commented on technology fees and raising registration fees by \$10 for only the middle school and high school.

Gustafson asked about increases to Drivers Ed.

Edwards was in favor of raising the middle school and high school registration fees by \$10 but not the elementary school.

An increase of \$10 for the middle school and high school registration fees will be placed on the Tuesday, February 28, 2017 Board of Education Meeting agenda for approval.

Vision 2020

Mr. Burgess stated the G-K Tech Expo will take place Saturday, March 4, 2017 from 10 am -2 pm.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Page 4

He also stated there will be a district booth during the Chamber Expo in the gym and the Tech Expo will be held in the library.

GKMS - Cross Country

In the absence of Athletic Director, Mr. Phil Jerbi, Dr. Shortridge shared information regarding adding a 6th grade cross country program to the middle school.

Dr. Shortridge shared information for a request to add 6th grade cross country to the middle school extra-curricular activities. He also stated several more schools are currently included in the middle school conference. He further stated six of the conference schools have enough 6th graders for a fall sport opportunity of cross country. Dr. Shortridge stated the district already has the cross country uniforms and the cost of a coach and travel would be minimal to allow 6th graders this opportunity. Dr. Shortridge stated five years ago having only five to six students involved in cross country and the district currently has 20-30. He also stated administration was in full support of adding 6th grade cross country to the middle school extra-curricular activities.

Andrews was in favor of adding 6th grade cross country to the middle school extra-curricular activities.

Edwards was not in favor of adding 6th grade cross country to middle school extra-curricular activities. Edwards however was in favor of adding art or academic programs over a sports program. She also commented on the public's perception of adding programs in lieu of the current deficit. She also stated sports were important though due to the current deficit and declining enrollment a 6th grade cross country program would not benefit the district at this time.

Kruse was in favor of adding 6th grade cross country to the middle school extra-curricular activities. Kruse commented on the declining enrollment and agreed for the need to increase opportunities for art and education as well. He also commented on earlier discussions in this meeting over increasing fees for technology as well as Edwards recommendation to reinstate a sports fee. Kruse stated it was important to offer affordable opportunities to students. Kruse stated adding cross country to middle school 6th grade extra-curricular activities would offer an opportunity for students at a very minimal cost.

Edwards shared concerns over the future of state funding.

Kruse stated if state funding were cut all sports would need to be cut. Kruse also asked about current cross country participation.

Dr. Shortridge stated there are about 20-30 students that currently participate in cross country.

Fischer asked what sports are currently offered for 6th graders.

Dr. Shortridge stated there were no sports currently offered to 6th graders.

Mr. Burgess recommended Mr. Jerbi attend the next board meeting to share more information regarding adding 6th grade cross country to middle school extra-curricular activities.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Page 5

The board will further discuss and seek approval of GKMS Cross Country to be added to the middle school extra-curricular activities at the Tuesday, February 28, 2017 Board of Education Meeting.

Administrative Review of Closed Session Meeting Minutes

I have reviewed the closed session minutes for February 10, 2015 through June 16, 2015 and recommend that they stay closed to the public.

The administrative review of closed session meeting minutes to stay closed to the public will be placed on the Tuesday, February 28, 2017 Board of Education Meeting agenda for approval.

Administrative Review of Closed Session Audio Minutes

I have reviewed the audio closed session minutes for February 10, 2015 through June 16, 2015 and recommend that they be destroyed.

The administrative review of closed session meeting minutes to be destroyed will be placed on the Tuesday, February 28, 2017 board meeting agenda for approval.

Davenport Update

Mr. Burgess shared an update of the relocation schedule and correspondence from the appraisal company regarding Davenport Elementary School.

Mr. Burgess commented on discussions with Mr. Ratliff regarding additional parking spaces and a new bus drop off at Genoa Elementary School. Mr. Burgess stated the City of Genoa will be re-doing Hill Street over the next three years and stated if the district could build something temporary they would like to work collectively with the district on the final project.

Kruse stated he was pleased to hear the district will be working collectively with the City of Genoa.

Mr. Burgess commented on the review of staffing to be completed by the end of the month. He also stated any surplus property for sale or donation will be added to a future agenda for approval.

Kruse asked about items available for sale at the Tech Expo in March.

Mrs. Hill stated there could be smaller items such as; tech carts and easels available.

Brynteson asked about other area schools or preschools to donate surplus items to.

Kruse stated it would be nice for area preschools to see items available when they visit the Tech Expo.

Mr. Burgess stated next the School House Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 9 am.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Page 6

Mr. Burgess stated Mr. Francis will begin working with the handbook committee next week and any changes due to the closing of Davenport Elementary School.

Mr. Burgess stated the Davenport Elementary School appraisal should be completed by the end of the month. He also stated unsure of the expectation of the buildings value. He further stated demolition costs could be valuable.

Edwards asked about zoning of the property and if homes could be built on the site.

Mr. Burgess stated the City of Genoa would like to keep the property the same environment. He also stated any re-zoning would have to go through the city and that homes could likely be built on the site.

Superintendent/Board Communication

IPA Award

Paul Kruse publicly congratulated Mr. Burgess for receiving the Illinois Principals Association (IPA) "Superintendent of the Year" Award.

Mr. Burgess stated he will also be speaking at an IPA student leadership breakfast as the keynote speaker.

DeKalb County Community Foundation Grant - "Cooked Up"

Mr. Burgess stated Kristen Yargus and Dr. Trevor Steinbach are currently developing a grant for the DeKalb County Community Foundation called "Cook Ed Up". The grant is to request dollars to expand technology in the culinary arts programs at the high school.

New Superintendent O'Daniell's visit

Mr. Burgess commented on Mr. O'Daniell's visit Friday, February 10, 2017. Mr. O'Daniell paid a visit to all of the district buildings and discussed in detail the next school year.

IASB Kishwaukee Division Dinner

Mr. Burgess commented on the upcoming IASB Kishwaukee Division Dinner in Sycamore to be held on Thursday, March 23, 2017. He also stated there are currently three board members are attending the dinner.

Future Agenda Items

February 28, 2017 BOE Meeting

Cindy Wills DES Presentation
Surplus Property
Registration Fee Approval
GKMS Cross Country

Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Page 7

Approval of Review of Closed Session Minutes
Approval of Review of Closed Session Audio

Closed Session for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District in compliance with 5 ILCS 12/2(c)/1.

Closed session was not needed at this time.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Gustafson, seconded by Brynteson, to adjourn the Board of Education meeting at 7:20 pm.

Voice Vote: All

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Paul Kruse, Board President

Heather Edwards, Board Secretary