

Board of Education Meeting – 7:00pm
Tuesday, August 25, 2015
Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District #424
Genoa-Kingston High School Community Room
980 Park Avenue Genoa, IL 60135

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Mission Statement
4. Correspondence/Presentation
 - 4.01 GKHS/Brett McPherson
5. Public hearings petitions questions and comments from guests and visitors
6. Consent Agenda
 - a. Payroll
 - b. Accounts Payable
 - c. Minutes
 - d. Employment, Volunteer Coaches, Resignations
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Old Business
 - 8.01 2016-2017 School Calendar
9. New Business
 - 9.01 PRESS Policy Review
 - 9.02 Application for Recognition of Schools
 - 9.02 FOIA Report
 - 9.03 Donations
10. Superintendent/Board Communication
11. Future Agenda Items
12. Closed Session for the purpose of discussion relating to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
13. Reconvene to Open Session
14. Adjournment

Board of Education Meeting Minutes – 7:00pm
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Genoa-Kingston High School Community Room
980 Park Avenue Genoa, IL 60135

Call to Order

President Paul Kruse called the Genoa-Kingston Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Taunya Fischer, Angie Lauderdale, Kerri Sosnowski, Heather Edwards, Barb Gustafson Kristin Brynteson, and Paul Kruse.

Absent:

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Burgess led the guests and members of the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mission Statement

Kristin Brynteson read the Mission Statement, "Preparing students to excel and contribute to their community."

Mr. Burgess shared his condolences to the family of a student that recently passed away. He further stated it is important to know the district, faculty and staff put our students first.

Correspondence/Presentation
GKHS/Brett McPherson/ACT Data

Mr. McPherson shared a presentation highlighting the Genoa-Kingston High School ACT Data. He also stated the goals and growth of the students and the district.

Mr. McPherson stated he was very proud of the staff and students for their ACT accomplishments. He also stated it was exciting to see the current senior's data. Mr. McPherson stated the goal for the district was to get to state average. He further stated a previous Kishwaukee College study had revealed our district needed improvement in math. Mr. McPherson stated he addressed the math concerns and the data shows the district is heading in the right direction. Mr. McPherson stated students that took the ACT test are showing college readiness.

Sosnowski asked if the current curriculum and standards will continue to grow.

Mr. McPherson stated the goal is continued growth. He further stated we have shown substantial growth over the last two years. He also stated a third year of growth should prove the district will

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continue to grow in the county and in the conference. Mr. McPherson stated he saw the challenges of the students and is working hard to meet their needs. He also stated being very proud of the students. He further stated the following were multivariate contributions to student growth:

- PLC's/CFA's
- Reading/Writing across the curriculum (CQC)
- Assessment Committee
- Aligned curriculum to College Readiness Standards
- ACT Incentive Program
- Moving ACT's to classroom setting
- Cheaper option for ACT prep course (more students)
- Focus on quality instruction
- Focus on positive teacher-student relationships

Mr. McPherson also shared an ACT Incentive Program for the students in which students had to meet three out of five goals to be exempt from final exams. He also stated 67% of the students met their goals. He further stated the Assessment Committee has been essential to the district which involves staff and community input.

Edwards stated she was pleased with the ACT data. She also stated she was very happy to hear about the additional help being offered for math and science during AE. She further stated there has been a lot of concern about math and science and this proves the concerns are being addressed and students can get the help they need.

Sosnowski stated she was pleased Mr. McPherson looked at all the data and is meeting the concerns of the parents and students.

Public hearings petitions questions and comments from guests and visitors

There were no petitions, questions, and comments from guests and visitors.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Brynteson, and seconded by Sosnowski, to approve the August 10, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$437,323.78, the August 14, 2015 KEC payroll in the amount of \$91,198.19, the August 2015 Payable Board Report in the amount of \$852,531.10, and the August 11, 2015 Board of Education Meeting minutes.

To Approve the Following Employment Considerations:

Donna Butz - Custodian - Effective for the 2015-2016 School Year.
Cheyanna Strusz - ESP - Effective for the 2015-2016 School Year.
Margaret Taylor - Cook - Effective for the 2015-2016 School Year.

To Approve the Following Volunteer Assistant Coaches:

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Zachary Bohn - Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach - Effective for the 2015-2016 School Year.
Haly Young - Volunteer Assistant Dance Coach - Effective for the 2015-2016 School Year.

To Approve the Following Resignations:

Earl Jursich - Varsity Wrestling Coach - Effective for the 2015-2016 School Year.

Ayes: Brynteson, Edwards, Fischer, Gustafson, Lauderdale, Sosnowski, Kruse
Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Hoffman presented a detailed treasurer's report to the board of education. Ms. Hoffman stated July is the first month the district moves into the new fiscal year. She further stated a review of the FY-16 budget will take place at the Tentative Budget Hearing on September 22, 2015.

Ms. Hoffman also stated at the end of July the State of Illinois did not owe the district anything.

A motion was made by Fischer, and seconded by Lauderdale, to approve the July Treasurer's Report as presented.

Ayes: Edwards, Fischer, Gustafson, Lauderdale, Sosnowski, Brynteson, Kruse
Motion Carried.

Old Business

2016-2017 School Calendar

Mr. Burgess presented an updated potential calendar for the 2016-2017 School year. Mr. Burgess stated the updated calendar reflects a starting date of Monday, August 15, 2016. He also stated the teachers work day would be Thursday, August 11, 2016 and the teachers institute day would be Friday, August 12, 2016. He further stated the new start date pushes into the third week of August. He also stated the first semester will still allow for finals prior to winter break. Mr. Burgess stated this calendar addresses a majority of the concerns voiced over this school year's earlier start date.

Mr. Burgess recommended the board to approve the 2016-2017 school calendar based on communication with administration and community members.

A motion was made by Gustafson, and seconded by Sosnowski, to approve the 2016-2017 school calendar with changes as presented.

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Ayes: Fischer, Gustafson, Lauderdale, Sosnowski, Brynteson, Edwards, Kruse
Motion Carried.

New Business

PRESS Policy Review

August PRESS Policy Updates

Mr. Burgess stated that the majority of the August PRESS Policy updates are footnotes and legal issues that may need to be addressed prior to approval. He also stated there may be a reason to bring our attorney in for a litigation matter. Mr. Burgess stated it would be a good use of the attorney's fees to work on the PRESS Policies as well as any legal issues.

Edwards asked if policy 5:50 requires the board to choose an option.

Mr. Burgess stated the footnote reinforces our current policy.

2:160 - Board Attorney

2:260 - Uniform Grievance Procedure

4:50 - Payment Procedures

5:50 - Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition

5:170 - Copyright

5:270 - Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment

5:290 - Employment Termination and Suspensions

7:10 - Equal Educational Opportunities

7:40 - Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students

7:220 - Bus Conduct

7:260 - Exemption from Physical Activity

7:310 - Restrictions on Publications

7:325 - Student Fund-Raising Fundraising Activities

8:10 - Connection with the Community

8:80 - Gifts to the District

6:140 - Education of Homeless Children

7:90 - Release During School Hours

A motion was made by Fischer, and seconded by Brynteson, to approve placing the August PRESS Policy Updates on 30 day public display as presented.

Ayes: Gustafson, Lauderdale, Sosnowski, Brynteson, Edwards, Fischer, Kruse
Motion Carried.

Application for Recognition of Schools

Mr. Burgess stated this is an annual approval that the school board approves. It is for the assurance department at ISBE regarding evaluation, ESP certification and building occupation.

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A motion was made by Gustafson, and seconded by Sosnowski, to approve the Application for Recognition of Public Schools for the 2015-2016 school year for the 5 (five) buildings in the district.

Ayes: Lauderdale, Sosnowski, Brynteson, Edwards, Fischer, Gustafson, Kruse
Motion Carried.

FOIA Report

Mr. Burgess stated one FOIA from The University of California regarding Common Core text book studies.

Donations

Mr. Burgess stated we have had a great start to Project Lead the Way. Mr. Burgess thanked all of the current sponsors, Custom Aluminum Products, NB&T Bank, KishHealth System, Sycamore Precision, The Shortridge Family, and Edward Jones – Josh Kubiak. He also stated the sign for Project Lead the Way is now paid for and we will begin advertising during the first home football game scheduled for Friday, September 4, 2015. He also stated to note the numerous donations for the month of August to Kingston Elementary School.

A motion was made by Brynteson, and seconded by Fischer, to accept with gratitude a generous donation of \$1,000 from Custom Aluminum Products, \$1,000 from NB&T Bank, \$500 from KishHealth System, \$500 from Sycamore Precision, \$150 from the Shortridge Family and \$150 from Edward Jones - Josh Kubiak in support of Project Lead the Way, as well as \$210.12 from Pepsi, two bags of school supplies from the Kingston United Methodist Church, a check for \$18.28 and a check for \$15.27 for market day purchases at GFS and eight (8) basketballs for the new playground from Amy and Todd Walker, all to Kingston Elementary School.

Ayes: Sosnowski, Brynteson, Edwards, Fischer, Gustafson, Lauderdale, Kruse
Motion Carried.

Superintendent/Board Communication

Start of School items

Mr. Burgess stated the outstanding start to the 2015-2016 school year included a great teacher's institute day. He also stated the district is in the second year of PLC's. He further stated there has been a lot of buy in for all the positive changes over the past few years.

Staff Tailgate September 4th

Mr. Burgess stated holding a staff tail gate prior to the first football game scheduled for Friday, September 4, 2015. Cafeteria Director, Regan Peterson and Building and Grounds Director, Joe Ratliff will be cooking for the staff and faculty. Mr. Burgess stated he will send out an invitation to all staff to participate in a kick off to the new school year.

Midweek Article

Mr. Burgess stated there have been several positive articles and comments about our district in the Midweek recently.

Mr. Burgess stated he will be presenting the Project Lead the Way program to several organizations in the community and in the county.

Future Agenda Items

September 8, 2015 Committee of the Whole

Presentation – GES – Cindy Wills – Summer School

September 22, 2015

Student Services Presentation – Karen Simmons

FY-16 Tentative Budget Hearing and Approval

FY-15 Annual Financial Report

Closed Session

Closed Session for the purpose of discussion relating to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

A closed session was not needed at this time.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Brynteson, and seconded by Fischer, to adjourn the Board of Education meeting at 7:47 pm.

Voice vote: All
Motion Carried.

Paul Kruse, Board President

Heather Edwards, Board Secretary