

Committee of the Whole Meeting – 6:30pm
Tuesday, October 13, 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. Buildings & Grounds Presentation
 - 2.01 Building & Grounds Presentation/Joe Ratliff
3. Triple I Conference Update
4. ERO 2015
5. Levy Information and Necessary Approval Dates
6. Superintendent/Board Communication
7. Future Agenda Items
8. 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)
9. Reconvene to Open Session
10. Adjournment

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – 6:30pm
Tuesday, October 13, 2015
Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District #424
Genoa-Kingston High School Community Room
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 6:31 pm.

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

Absent: Kerri Sosnowski

Buildings & Grounds Presentation

Mr. Slater and Mr. Ratliff gave a 2015 summer work update to the Board of Education.

Mr. Slater stated buildings and grounds, operations and maintenance work well together. He also stated prevailing wage is approved by the board annually. He also stated the significant cost savings to the district by doing most work in house.

Kruse asked what the staff was paid versus outsourcing work.

Mr. Ratliff stated a majority of summer work is done in house and most of summer staff is paid minimum wage. He also stated many of the buildings received significant updates including new carpet, projectors, alarm systems, new LED lighting, asphalt patching, and landscaping.

Mr. Ratliff stated Kingston Elementary School received all new playground equipment due to the insurance company condemning the old equipment. He also stated Mrs. Hill secured a grant to help purchase new playground equipment including buddy benches, and a walking path. He also stated the storm sewer was repaired, which had caused previous flooding.

Edwards asked if the flooding issue has been resolved.

Mr. Ratliff stated the storm sewer project was completed in the spring and the problem is solved.

Mr. Ratliff stated the district recently purchased a sealcoating machine at a cost of \$9,500. He further stated next year all buildings will be seal coated and all work will be done in house at a significant savings to the district.

Edwards asked how much the district spent contracting out the seal coating this year.

Mr. Ratliff stated spending approximately \$14,000 this past year on seal coating only a few of the buildings.

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Page 2

Lauderdale asked how old the seal coating machine is.

Mr. Ratliff stated the machine was built in 2006.

Edwards asked about the cost savings of the new LED lights.

Mr. Slater stated the LED lights are 40% brighter and will last four times longer.

Mr. Ratliff stated two of the largest projects this past summer were updating the high school baseball fields and painting the interior of all of the buildings. He also stated security was upgraded district wide with new cameras.

Edwards asked if the new cameras can easily identify individuals.

Mr. Ratliff stated the new cameras can easily identify individuals as well as license plate numbers from a distance.

Mr. Slater stated by attending a security conference each year security software upgrades and training are ongoing. He further stated he will share a security presentation with the Board of Education in the near future.

Edwards stated concerns about the recent outbreak of legionnaire's disease.

Mr. Ratliff stated the district does not have cooling towers therefore; this is not a concern.

Mr. Burgess stated the summer work update is important to see not only the cost savings but how well the district is taken care of.

Triple I Conference Update

Mr. Burgess asked the board to email Mrs. Mulso with any changes to reservations for the Triple I Conference in Chicago as soon as possible.

ERO 2015

Mr. Burgess stated the ERO is approved by the board each year. He further stated it is important to be consistent when approving the ERO.

Article IX

B. Limitation on Retirements under Modified ERO. At the discretion of the Board, the number of teachers under age 60 who may elect to participate in the TRS Modified Early Retirement Option may be limited to ten percent (10%) of the teachers under age 60 who are eligible for participation with the right to participate to be allocated among those applying on the basis of seniority in service to the District. An employee may not access both the Modified ERO option AND any retirement incentives described in this Agreement.

Mr. Burgess stated it is his recommendation that the board approve the limit of 10% of eligible staff.

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 13, 2015
Page 3

ERO 2015 will be approved at the Tuesday, October 27, 2015 Board of Education meeting.

Levy Information and Necessary Approval Dates

Dr. Shortridge stated in order to insure that all available local funds are accessed through the levy process, it may be necessary to levy for more than a 5% increase over last year's request. As a result, Truth in Taxation laws require the District to publish the amount of the levy and the percentage of the increase over last year's levy allocation in the newspaper. Further, the Board must adopt a Tentative Levy and then hold a public hearing before Board approval of the final levy. The recommended levy process for the District in the next two months is as follows:

- **October Full Board Meeting:**
 - Approve the request for permission to issue appropriate public notice of the Levy Hearing to be held at the December 15, 2015 Board meeting.
 - Give permission to the administration to publish in the paper the required Truth in Taxation notice if the levy amount will be over 5% of last years allocation .
- **November Committee Meeting:** Discuss the tentative levy and the percentage increase necessary over the previous year.
- **November Full Board Meeting:** Adopt the tentative levy
 - District will publish notice of Levy Hearing and the Truth in Taxation information, including the percentage increase of the levy request, in the newspaper between December 1-8.
- **December Full Board Meeting:** Conduct the Levy Hearing (will only be necessary if the levy amount is over 5% of last year's total). Adopt the Final Levy.

For this month of October, we ask the Board to approve the request for permission to issue the appropriate public notice of the following:

1. Levy Hearing to be held at the December 15, 2015 Board of Education Meeting
2. Truth in Taxation notice

Submitted by Brad Shortridge, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

The Levy information and necessary approval dates will be approved at the Tuesday, October 27, 2015 Board of Education meeting.

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Page 4

Superintendent/Board Communication

Mr. Burgess shared a Kishwaukee College fact sheet regarding G-K graduates with the Board of Education. He also stated the fact sheet is interesting because so many G-K graduates spend their first year at Kishwaukee College. He further stated staff and administration look at the fact sheet for future course offerings and how our students are doing at the junior college level.

Vision 2020 Local Update:

Mr. Burgess shared notes from a recent Vision 2020 meeting held at the district.

Mr. Burgess stated the use of Chrome Books was a discussed.

Next Vision 2020 meeting set for Wednesday, November 11, 2015.

Vision 2020 State Update:

Mr. Burgess recently visited Springfield and shared with the Board of Education the IASA-IASB 2020 initiatives that Governor Rauner is in support of.

Institute Update

Mr. Burgess stated district staff attended a county wide institute on Friday, October 9, 2015. He also stated the county wide institute day was very well attended. Mr. Burgess thanked Mrs. Hill for all her efforts in planning and preparing the institute day. He also stated Dr. Mohammad had a great presentation. He further stated spending PLC time with six other districts valuable. Mr. Burgess stated the cross district collaboration was outstanding. He also stated he would like to continue to have a county wide institute day.

Edwards asked if all districts have PLC time.

Mrs. Hill stated most districts have some form of PLC time.

Advanced Placement:

Mr. Burgess commended Mr. Bill Bolger for all his efforts with the testing programs for advanced placement in social science.

Kishwaukee Fall Dinner Reminder

Mr. Burgess reminded the board to email Mrs. Mulso if they would like to attend the Kishwaukee Fall Dinner at Hampshire High School on Thursday, October 22, 2015.

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 13, 2015
Page 5

Future Agenda Items

August PRESS Policy Approval
2015 ERO Approval
Levy Approval of Dates and Necessary Information

Kruse stated he would like to hear a security presentation in the near future.

Edwards asked about the process for hiring a future Superintendent.

Edwards also asked about board retreat dates to meet with administrators and board members.

Mr. Burgess suggested Saturday, November 14, 2015, or after the next Committee of the Whole Meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 as a board retreat date.

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 following the Committee of the Whole Meeting was decided to hold a board retreat.

Brynteson stated she may be late for the November 10, 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Edwards asked if there were any workman's compensation claims currently in the district.

Dr. Shortridge stated there are generally some workman compensation claims in a district however; our claims have diminished which has reduced the districts premiums significantly. He further stated the premiums may be reduced even further next year. Dr. Shortridge stated the ongoing safety training and reinforcement of safety measures district wide has made a difference and continues to stay fresh in everyone's mind.

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)

A motion was made by Gustafson, seconded by Lauderdale, 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 7:25 pm.

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

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Page 6

Reconvene

The board reconvened to open session at 8:05 pm.

Superintendent Burgess commented the board needs a formal written resignation from Kerri Sosnowski before a new board member can be appointed. President Kruse will contact Kerri Sosnowski.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Barb Gustafson, seconded by Taunya Fischer, to adjourn the Board of Education meeting at 8:07 pm.

Voice vote: All motion carried.

Paul Kruse, Board President

Heather Edwards, Board Secretary