

Committee of the Whole Meeting – 6:30pm
Tuesday, November 10, 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. PRESS Policies for Review
3. Tentative Tax Levy Review
4. Delegate Review for Joint Conference
5. Skills 2016
6. Superintendent/Board Communication
7. Future Agenda Items
8. Closed session for discussion of the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)3.
9. Reconvene to Open Session
10. Adjournment

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Call to Order

President Paul Kruse called the Genoa-Kingston CUSD #424 Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Present: Taunya Fischer, Angie Lauderdale, Heather Edwards, Barb Gustafson, Paul Kruse

Absent: Kristin Brynteson

PRESS Policies for Review

October Press Policies

Mr. Burgess stated a majority of the October PRESS policies that are being updated are reflective of footnotes to the legal references.

Edwards asked about the process for eliminating a policy.

Mr. Burgess stated the board may decide to eliminate a policy as long as it does not violate any law.

Edwards asked about a policy regarding a middle school student achieving high school credits for taking a high school level class.

Mr. Burgess stated this policy exists and has been implemented in the past. He also stated it is important to ensure the teacher has the proper certification to accommodate a student's needs.

Kruse stated an individual situation could not retroactive.

The October PRESS Policies will be placed on the Tuesday, November 17, 2015 board agenda for approval of 30 day public display.

October PRESS Policies

2:100 - Board Member Conflict of Interest

2:150 - Committees

2:200 - Types of School Board Meetings

4:170 - Safety

5:90 - Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

5:100 - Staff Development Program

6:15 - School Accountability

6:50 - School Wellness

6:60 - Curriculum Content

6:160 - English Language Learners

6:270 - Guidance and Counseling Program

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6:280 - Grading and Promotion
6:310 - High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students
6:315 - High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8
6:320 - High School Credit for Proficiency
6:340 - Student Testing and Assessment
7:50 - School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
7:100 - Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
7:130 - Student Rights and Responsibilities
7:140 - Search and Seizure
7:290 - Adolescent Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention Programs
7:300 - Extracurricular Athletics
7:305 - Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
7:340 - Student Records
8:30 - Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

Tentative Tax Levy Review

Mr. Burgess shared the Tentative Levy worksheet for 2015 prepared by Dr. Shortridge. He also stated the Tentative Levy Hearing is scheduled for presentation the same night as the December Board meeting (December 15, 2015). Mr. Burgess stated Dr. Shortridge has spoken to the DeKalb County Assessor's Office and have received the following estimate of EAV and new construction for Tax Year 2015:

- EAV: \$171 Million- up \$6M from last year.
- New Construction- \$368,400 - this is not capped, but represents a *decrease* of about 2.5% from last year.

CPI was 0.8% last year, which in a tax capped district, is the maximum amount of increase the district can receive, not including new property.

Dr. Shortridge believes 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 Assessor underestimated new construction a couple of years ago by about \$200,000. However, our levy request was adequate to compensate. The 5% increase I recommend we request should allow plenty of room to levy all accessible dollars under the tax cap while protecting the District in case the Assessor makes adjustments in the EAV and New Construction estimates in the spring. If the requested percentage is under a 5% increase, then a hearing will not be necessary and we will not need to post for a hearing. However, in that instance, I recommend that we still hold a hearing, allowing for public comment, at the December 15, 2015 Board meeting.

Submitted by Brad Shortridge, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

The tentative budget hearing will be held at the December 15, 2015 Board of Education meeting.

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Delegate Review for Joint Conference

Mr. Burgess stated Paul Kruse is our delegate for the Triple I Conference.

Lauderdale asked about the resolution opposing family members as officers on the Board of Education.

Kruse stated the resolutions presented are proposed legislature. The recommendation is to not adopt the resolution prohibiting family members as officers on the Board of Education.

Edwards shared concerns regarding the No Child Left Behind resolution.

Edwards asked about the district's ability to create their own policies.

Mr. Burgess stated the district is still receiving Title 1 funds. He also stated continuing to follow the guidelines of the federal government. He further stated it would be difficult due to the lack of state funding to not help a student in need.

Brynteson stated she would not recommend investigating a resolution that was put on hold and may change in the near future.

Kruse asked the board if they were against any of the proposed resolutions.

Dr. Kristin Brynteson entered the room at 6:42 pm.

Skills 2016

Mr. Burgess updated the board regarding the Skills 2016 class being prepared for G-K students.

Mr. Burgess shared the Skills 2016 PowerPoint he recently presented at the county wide institute with the Board of Education. Mr. Burgess stated solidifying the Skills 2016 presenters. He also stated last year's Skills survey supported more business and resume building. He further stated there will be more hands on activities in 2016. Mr. Burgess stated collaborating with the district food service provider, The G-K Café, to have the Skills 2016 students divide into teams and work on promoting two less popular food items as a contest. Mr. Burgess stated the Skills 2016 class is an 8 week course with a project and graduation. Mr. Burgess stated there has been a lot of interest in the class. He further stated Sycamore School District as well as Kishwaukee College are doing similar events and have recently contacted him regarding Skills information. He also stated positive feedback about the Skills 2016 program from Mr. Bruce Griffin of Kishwaukee College. Mr. Griffin runs the G-K Leadership Academy.

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Superintendent/Board Communication

Cyber Bullying Presentation

Mr. Burgess thanked Mr. Lekkas for his recent presentation about Cyber Bully Safety. Mr. Burgess stated lot of important information was shared with parents. He further stated the presentation will be available our district website.

Mr. Lekkas stated in the future he would like to prepare half hour presentations addressing the social aspect of bullying. He also stated parents were more open to share thoughts and ideas since students were not in attendance. He further stated future meetings may include students. Mr. Lekkas stated the bullying survey has ended and results of the survey will be shared soon.

Vision 2020 Agenda

Mr. Burgess stated the next Vision 2020 is scheduled for Wednesday, November 11, 2015 He further stated topics to be discussed will include the Tech Expo and Chrome Books.

Mandated Smoking Signs

Mr. Burgess stated the mandated no smoking signs have been placed in and around the district.

Future Agenda Items

Board Vacancy

Tentative Levy

Retreat Review

Policies for 30 Day Public Display

Closed session for discussion of the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)3.

A motion was made by Gustafson, and seconded by Brynteson, to convene to closed session for discussion of the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)3
at 6:56 pm.

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

Reconvene to Open Session

The board reconvened to open session at 7:04 pm.

The board continued the Committee of the Whole Meeting with the Board Retreat at 7:04 pm.

Board Retreat Minutes – 7:04 pm
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School Board Retreat

Review of the Retreat Process

Mr. Burgess shared a small review of the Board Retreat process. He also stated breaking into small groups as to not limit to thoughts and ideas. He further stated thinking about short and long term ideas. Mr. Burgess stated ending the retreat with a vision and finalizing a plan for the district.

Mr. Burgess stated an example of short and long term objectives. Mr. Burgess stated in 2005 technology was just beginning to be a part of education. He further stated if we limited our thoughts that every student would have a laptop for school, it would have never been attainable.

Mr. Burgess stated reviewing ideas from the Board Retreat at the next Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2015.

Kruse stated one objective would be to listen to each administrator and focus on expanding existing ideas.

Small Group Breakouts with Administrators

The board broke up into small focus groups with administrators to create future thoughts and ideas for the district.

Board of Education – Vision & District Leadership Goals

The board shared ideas of the vision and leadership roles of the district.

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Ideas and Outcomes

The board created a list of ideas in a timeframe of 1-2 years, 3-5 years, and 5-10 years including outcomes to be shared in a final product for the board to review on November 17, 2015.

What are our priorities for the Ideas and Outcomes?

The board created a priority list of ideas with outcomes.

What is your vision for the action needed to assist the district moving forward?

The board discussed the action necessary to assist with the vision of the district moving forward.

Finalize District Action Plan for 2015-2017

Mr. Burgess will present the final District Action Plan at the November 17, 2015 Board of Education meeting.

Wrap up and Review of Activities

The Board reviewed the activities of the Board Retreat.

Superintendent/Board Communication

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Gustafson, and seconded by Brynteson, to adjourn the Genoa Kingston Board of Education, Board Retreat at 8:44 p.m.

Voice Vote: All
Motion carried.

Paul Kruse, Board President

Heather Edwards, Board Secretary