

Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 pm
Tuesday, December 15, 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. Board Member Appointment
5. Appointment of Vice-President
6. Public hearings petitions questions and comments from guests and visitors
7. Correspondence/Presentation
 - 7.01 John Francis, Genoa Elementary School
8. Consent Agenda
 - a. Payrolls
 - b. Accounts Payable
 - c. Minutes
 - d. Resignations
9. Treasurer's Report
10. Old Business
 - 10.01 Tax Levy Presentation
 - 10.02 Adopt the Tax Levy
 - 10.03 Report from Joint Conference
 - 10.04 Task Force Report
11. New Business
 - 11.01 FOIA Request
 - 11.02 Acceptance of Donations
 - 11.03 Resource Officer
12. Superintendent/Board Communication
13. Future Agenda Items
14. Closed Session for the purpose of discussion relating to security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).
15. Reconvene to Open Session
16. Adjournment

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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, Heather Edwards, Barb Gustafson, Kristin Brynteson
Paul Kruse.

Absent: None.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Francis and students from Genoa Elementary School led our guests and Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mission Statement

Barb Gustafson read the Mission Statement, "Preparing students to excel and contribute to their community."

Board Member Appointment

The board appointed Kristen Andrews to the Genoa-Kingston Board of Education.
President Paul Kruse presided over the oath.

A motion was made by Barb Gustafson, and seconded by Kristin Brynteson, to appoint Kristen Andrews as a member of the Genoa Kingston Community Unit School District #424 Board of Education.

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

The oath was read by Kristen Andrews; Kristen Andrews joined the Board of Education for the rest of the meeting at 7:04 pm.

Appointment of Vice-President

Sosnowski's board resignation on September 22, 2015 left a void in the office of vice-president for the board of education. The board nominated and appointed a new vice-president.

A motion was made by Brynteson, and seconded by Kruse, to nominate, Barb Gustafson as Vice President to the Genoa-Kingston CUSD #424 Board of Education.

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Voice Vote: All

Motion Carried.

Public hearings petitions questions and comments from guests and visitors

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

Correspondence/Presentation

John Francis, Genoa Elementary School

Mr. Francis introduced several students from Genoa Elementary School. The students shared information and current projects of the new Maker Space environment. Students described a Maker Space environment as a space where students can gather to create, invent, and learn through curriculum guided lessons. Mr. Francis stated the goal is to grow the Maker Space and to have it open before, during and after school. He also stated adding a Maker Space to the library where students would work on themed projects.

Mr. Francis shared the literacy approaches of Genoa Elementary where NEWSELA was added to include different levels of reading and quizzes. He also shared information regarding the new Envisions Math and second year of Seeds for Science.

Mr. Francis shared PARCC data and performance scores. He also stated information about PARCC and PARCC scores will be included in the student's report cards. Mr. Francis also stated the data shows that most students met or exceeded performance goals.

Gustafson asked if testing was written or typed.

Mr. Francis stated testing was typed. He also stated the goal for each and every student is to reach one year's growth and a higher level of learning. He further stated PLC's play an important role in this growth as well as WIN time (What I Need). Mr. Francis also shared MAP data for 4th and 5th grade.

Mr. Francis invited the board to the Genoa Elementary School bullying presentation. Mr. Francis thanked the board for their time.

Edwards stated PARCC scores stated students were above average. Edwards asked how the scores were achieved.

Mr. Francis stated PARCC scores are benchmarked to compare students internationally.

Brynteson stated the Illinois report card explains the scoring in more detail.

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Mr. Burgess stated the goal would be for every district and administrator to have consistent testing in order to gain data that is relevant and stable to use over the next several years.

Consent Agenda

Edwards asked about supplies purchased at Menards in Rockford and Sycamore. Edwards asked if the maintenance department was aware that Menards in Sycamore offers free delivery to the district.

Mr. Slater stated he was aware that the Menards in Sycamore offers free delivery. He also stated most work is done in house and when supplies are needed delivery could take up to two to three days. He further stated keeping costs to a minimum by combining trips to other vendors when necessary.

A motion was made by Gustafson, and seconded by Fischer, to approve the November 24, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$546,806.94, The December 10, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$545,200.56, the December 2015 Payable Board Report in the amount of \$310,302.57, the November 17, 2015 Board of Education Meeting minutes, and the November 17, 2015 closed session minutes. The approval of the closed session minutes does not constitute disclosure or dissemination until the Board has authorized the dissemination or disclosure of these minutes.

To approve the following resignation:

Bryan Evans - Middle School Math Teacher - Effective end of the 2015-2016 School Year.

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

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Hoffman gave a detailed treasurers report to the board of education. She also stated we have received the final tax distribution from the county.

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

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

Old Business

Tax Levy Presentation

Dr. Shortridge presented the tax levy for the district to the board and public. He also stated to note the increase in EAV over past years, although new construction was slightly less than prior years.

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Dr. Shortridge stated the prior tax levy worksheets have not changed from recent meetings. He also stated although it was not necessary to have a public hearing it was important to share the process and information with the public.

Adopt the Tax Levy

A motion was made by Fischer, and seconded by Brynteson, to adopt the 2015 Tax Levy as presented.

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

Report from Joint Conference

The board of education shared items of interest from the IASB Conference held last month in Chicago.

Gustafson stated attending two seminars, one presented by the Frankfort School District titled Community Engagement, and another session titled Positive Social Media. Gustafson stated the Frankfort School District has students post only positive messages on all their social media sites. Gustafson stated both sessions were very good and could be implemented in our district.

Brynteson stated attending sessions on personalized learning, technology, and instructional coaches. She also stated attending a session about proposed policies titled, "Who is advocating for you in Springfield and D.C." She also attended, A Guide to Superintendents."

Kruse stated he was appointed the board conference delegate for the Genoa-Kingston Board of Education. The conference is made up of approximately 350 board delegates. He also stated the conference is a good time to discuss proposed policies. Kruse also attended a social media primer.

Mr. Burgess stated attending a learning lab, sessions on funding and finance as well as legal topics and pensions. He also recommended a future board workshop to discuss Senate Bill 100 and discipline.

Task Force Report

Mr. Burgess shared the results and trending topics of the task force survey completed by NIU with the board. He also stated sharing statistics and goals with administration and staff to create future communication and educational plans.

Mr. Burgess stated there have been several comments that the district should have a zero tolerance policy. Mr. Burgess stated zero tolerance is illegal in the state of Illinois. He also stated it is important to communicate task force topics and the zero tolerance law to the community.

New Business

FOIA Request

Mr. Burgess stated there are two FOIA to report in November from the same identified email.

Acceptance of Donations

A motion was made by Gustafson, and seconded by Lauderdale, to approve with gratitude a generous donation of STEM Educational DVD's to Genoa Elementary School from Moochie Kalala Detective Club presented by Subway of Genoa, and \$25.00 to Davenport Elementary School from the Genoa Community Women's Club in appreciation for decorations used for Wonderful World of Christmas.

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

School Resource Officer

Mr. Burgess stated the Genoa Police Department is volunteering and spending time at Genoa-Kingston High School as a resource officer. Mr. Burgess shared the goals and duties of the school resource officer. Mr. Burgess commended Chief Smith for his efforts and shared several positive comments.

Mr. Burgess stated he had met with Chief Smith a few months ago offering to come to the high school most afternoons to serve as a resource officer. He also stated it has been extremely positive for the students. Mr. Burgess stated talking to other area superintendents about their resource officer uses. He further stated the district bullying policy includes the idea of a resource officer.

Mr. McPherson stated the school resource officer has been very positive for the students.

Lauderdale asked how often is the K-9 unit is at the high school as well as certifications and insurance costs.

Dr. Shortridge stated certifications are up to date and there is no increase in insurance costs due to the K-9 unit.

Mr. Burgess shared a comment from a student in the district's leadership group stating most students feel safe by the presence of the K-9 and officer at the high school.

Brynteson was happy with the idea of the school resource officer as well as the K-9.

Kruse stated he was pleased with having crime prevention that was non-confrontational.

Superintendent/Board Communication

Excellence in Education

Mr. Burgess shared the nominations for this year's excellence in education awards. He also stated the winners will be present at the January 12, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

1% Sales Tax

Mr. Kruse and Mr. Burgess shared information from a recent county meeting discussing the proposed 1% sales tax.

Mr. Burgess stated 1.8M could come into the Genoa-Kingston School District from the 1% sales tax. He also stated abating taxes with half of that amount. He further stated working on the current deficit and buildings and grounds needs with the remaining balance. Mr. Burgess stated the 1% sales tax would help tax payers, balance the district budget and creating independence from state aid.

Mr. Burgess stated there will be more meetings on this topic in January. He also stated keeping the board updated to the progress as well as rules to educate everyone in the process. He further stated a resolution regarding the 1% sales tax would need to be passed by the board.

Edwards asked if all districts were in favor of the proposed 1% sales tax. She also asked if the whole county would have to be in agreement to have the 1% sales tax pass.

Mr. Burgess stated most districts are currently talking to their boards about this proposal. He also stated most are in favor of the proposal. He also stated if the county is against it, it will fail. He further stated it is important all the taxing bodies know the positive impact this can have on our schools as well as the tax abatement portion.

Kruse stated there will be more meetings to discuss the proposal and details regarding the 1% sales tax.

PARCC release of scores

Mr. Burgess shared information regarding the release of the recent PARCC scores.

Mr. Burgess stated there are several factors that impact the PARCC scores. He also stated some schools took the test online while others used paper and pencil. He further stated having perspective when looking at international scores where they do not test all of their students. Mr. Burgess stated the hope is the standards maintain some consistency.

Illinois State Scholars

Mr. Burgess stated Genoa Kingston has 16 Illinois State Scholars for 2016. He further stated this is very impressive for our district.

Mr. McPherson stated this is a very large number of students to make Illinois State Scholar. He further stated being very proud of this achievement by the students.

CO2 monitors

Mr. Burgess stated CO2 monitors are a new unfunded mandate. He also stated some neighboring districts will incur a large cost for this update.

Mr. Slater stated effective January 1, 2016 CO2 monitors are required in areas where CO2 is emitted. He also stated a neighboring district will be paying over 60K to install CO2 monitors. He further stated since updating Genoa-Kingston's fire alarm system the cost to implement the update of CO2 monitors will be \$65 each or a total of 2K to the district. Mr. Slater stated working on details of how the CO2 alarms and drills will be handled. He further stated setting it up a supervisory alarm through the current fire alarm system to monitor proper levels of CO2 and notify buildings in advance of necessary evacuations. Mr. Slater was pleased that this mandate will be completed with minimal cost to the district.

Mr. Burgess stated common sense is to open windows and evacuate. He further stated hoping the ROE will take Genoa-Kingston's lead on this approach of the current CO2 mandate.

Kruse asked about the high school fire alarm system.

Mr. Slater stated the high school fire alarm system will be updated in the summer of 2016 and will include the CO2 monitors.

Future Agenda Items

October PRESS Policies for approval
Excellence in Education Recipients

Closed Session

Closed Session for the purpose of discussion relating to security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

A motion was made by Brynteson, seconded by Edwards, to convene to closed session for the purpose of discussion relating to security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property in compliance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9) at 8:47 pm.

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

Reconvene to Open Session

The board reconvened to open session at 9:06 pm.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Kristin Brynteson, seconded by Angie Lauderdale, to adjourn the Board of Education meeting at 9:07 pm.

Voice vote: All motion carried.

Paul Kruse, Board President

Heather Edwards, Board Secretary