Special Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 pm  
AMENDED  
Monday, July 20, 2020  
Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District #424  
Genoa-Kingston High School Auditorium  
980 Park Avenue  
Genoa, IL 60135  
Virtual Meeting – Join by phone  
(US)+1 605-865-2072  
PIN: 777 550 157#

1. Call to Order  
2. Pledge of Allegiance  
3. Mission Statement  
4. Public hearings, petitions, questions, and comments from guests and visitors  
5. New Business  
   5.01 Discussion of Return to School Plan  
   5.02 Approval of Resolution 2020-2021 Re: Reopening and Requirements for Use of Personal Protective Equipment (Including Face Coverings) and Symptom Screening During the COVID-19 Pandemic  
6. Bond Discussion  
7. Budget Discussion  
8. Board Discussion  
9. Superintendent/Board Communication  
10. Future Agenda Items  
11. 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)  
12. Reconvene to Open Session  
13. Personnel Action  
14. Adjournment
Call to Order

President, Kristin Andrews called the Genoa-Kingston CUSD #424 Special Board of Education Meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

Roll Call: Dr. Brynteson, Mr. Cleveland, Dr. Hintzsche, Mrs. Ratliff, Mr. Wesner, Mrs. Andrews

Physically Present: Kristin Brynteson, David Cleveland, Mary Hintzsche, Julie Ratliff, Jake Wesner, Kristen Andrews

Also Physically Present: Superintendent, Mr. O'Daniell, and Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Shortridge

Virtually Present: None.

Absent: John Shipley

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent, Brent O'Daniell led guests and members of the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mission Statement

Board Member, Dr. Mary Hintzsche read the Mission Statement "Preparing students to excel and contribute to their community."

Public hearings, petitions, questions, and comments from guests and visitors

Members of the public asked to address the board.

Lily McPherson – Shared concerns over separating students by last names and asked to keep students together by grade level for the social aspect of school.

Marina Krueger – Stated she has five children attending GK and all would likely choose the risk of face-to-face instruction over E-Learning. She shared concerns over a loss of education and social aspect of school due to a hybrid plan as well as creating a burden on parents and daycare providers. She also shared concerns regarding middle school students remaining in one room all day.
Laurie Nesler – Stated she was a former board member and that her family has lived in Genoa-Kingston for over 25 years with two students, one a junior and one a graduate of G-K. She shared concerns over the hybrid plan due to a loss in the social, emotional, and extracurricular needs of students. She was in favor of in-person learning. She asked the board to do what is in the best interest of students.

Mark Stoll – Shared concerns over the hybrid plan and his Kindergartener. He expressed concerns over the loss in education due to attending school every other day. He also shared concerns over a daycare providing services every other day as well as help with homework, technology and adding additional the costs to parents. He asked the board to consider K-5 students attending school every day.

Jaimie Fry – Stated she has been a daycare provider for over 21 years. She shared concerns over the hybrid plan increasing the need for daycare with added liability. She also shared concerns over daycare providing help with homework and technology on remote learning days.

Melissa Gustafson – Shared concerns over the hybrid plan and students exposure outside of school during a pandemic. She also shared concerns over daycares, grab’n’ go meals and technology. She was in favor of students attending school Monday through Friday.

Ben Owen – Publicly thanked everyone that provided input and developed the fall re-entry plan. He also publicly thanked the Board of Education. He stated although there are different points of view there is one goal and that is to do what is best for students. He shared concerns over the health and safety of the staff and asked everyone to be open minded about the look of education during a pandemic. He also stated he was dedicated to give quality education to students, but could not provide that if our students and staff are not healthy.

Donna Burton – Publicly thanked the Board. She stated she was a nurse and that COVID was real. She shared concerns over the hybrid plan and asked the Board to reconsider a Monday through Friday scenario. She also shared concerns over the grab’n’ go meals.

Erin Territo – Shared concerns about younger students keeping their masks on.

Stephanie Northrup – Shared concerns over the health and safety of teachers and students returning to school this fall.

Rachel Engel - Walnut Street Daycare – Shared concerns over the hybrid plan and increased daycare numbers. She also shared concerns regarding dividing students by last name and asked to keep grade levels together to limit exposure. She further expressed concerns over daycare providers assisting with E-Learning

Tiffany Thurlby – Asked if classes such as P.E., music and art will be included in the fall re-entry plan.

Kara Brauer – Shared concerns over E-Learning. She also shared concerns regarding students wearing masks all day as well as what will happen if a student or teacher has a fever.
Kelly Kuschel – Shared concerns over building times when transporting multiple children to different schools.

Amber Eberly – Shared concerns over the A,B schedule as well as students wearing facemasks on busses and in school as well as how facemasks will be enforced. She also shared positive feedback over the previous remote learning days.

Kelly Frederick – Shared concerns regarding the cost of the grab n go breakfast and lunch. She also thanked the Board and everyone who was working to make the upcoming school year the best it can be under the circumstances. She expressed her appreciation for all the work put into the fall re-entry plan.

Emily Prickett – Shared concerns over remote learning login times and working parents.

Victoria Gates – Shared concerns over what the remote learning days will consist of.

Unknown – Shared a concern if a child start school remotely, changing to in person instruction.

Sarah – Shared concerns over the hybrid plan, economic hardship on parents, access to Power School and stress on parents to help with E-Learning. She also asked if the Board would consider a Monday through Friday scenario.

Amina Music – Shared concerns over the A,B schedule and asked if students classes will be combined into one day.

Bennett Franson – Shared concerns over fall sports.

Kristin Welbon – Shared concerns over lunch provided after school at 1 pm and students in need of speech therapy.

Amy Wendt – Shared concerns over students with IEP’s and needing extra help with math and reading.

Jill Miller – Shared concerns regarding children with learning disabilities, remote learning as well as social emotional needs. She also shared concerns over the KEC program. She was in favor of thermal body temperatures taken at each building.

Cindy Stoll – Stated being a teacher for 15 years. She shared concerns over her Kindergartener not getting the same education if he were to attend Monday through Friday. She also shared concerns over daycare. She asked the Board to consider a different plan for K-5 students.
Kira Groh – Shared concerns over teachers on remote days as well as health protocols if a student comes to school with a fever. She also expressed concerns over why it was ok to send students to daycare and not school.

Ann Hughes – Shared concerns over health protocols.

Stephanie Jorzak – Shared concerns over health protocols.

Megan Leahy – Shared concerns over homework with minimal school hours as well as the emotional side of online and independent learning.

New Business

Discussion of Return to School Plan

Mr. O’Daniell shared a Return to School Plan for board review and discussion. He commented on the committee that met over the summer to help create the fall re-entry plan, which included surveys, sent to staff, students and parents. Mr. O’Daniell stated the fall re-entry plan would include ISBE, IDPH and CDC guidelines enforced to include temperature checks, handwashing, facemasks and social distancing measures. He also commented on the A, B schedule as well as attendance, grading scales and the national school lunch program similar to past school years.

Mr. Cleveland shared concerns over the current fall re-entry plan not being best for students as well as putting pressure on parents and daycare providers. He also shared concerns over social distancing and grey areas within the guidelines. He also stated the number of individuals working on the fall re-entry plan was unfair as well as a union representative confronted by the union appalling. Mr. Cleveland asked if all buildings spaces were considered for social distance classrooms. Mr. Cleveland was in favor of K-5 attending five days a week and grades 6-12 attending a hybrid scenario.

Mr. O’Daniell reiterated that the fall re-entry team put together a plan through survey results keeping in mind the guidelines provided by ISBE, IDPH and the CDC agreeing to meet the 6’ social distancing in classrooms, halls and all other locations. He also commented on the lack of space in some buildings to meet the social distancing guidelines. Mr. O’Daniell commented on the District Strategic Plan and the importance to educate the whole child and offer all aspects of the curriculum. He also stated several district employees that were on the fall re-entry team have students attending the Genoa-Kingston School District. Mr. O’Daniell asked the board for input and direction to move forward with a fall re-entry plan to meet the ISBE, IDPH and CDC guidelines and District Strategic Plan.

Dr. Hintzsche was not in favor of the current plan but was in favor of a new plan allowing K-5 to attend 4-5 days full time and 6-12 hybrid. She also shared concerns regarding the 1pm dismissal time and transportation. She also asked to consider ideas for the current senior class events such as homecoming, prom and graduation.
Mr. Cleveland shared concerns over the 1pm release time and the grab and go meals.

Mr. O’Daniell commented on the 1pm dismissal allowing the time for busses to transport students to extracurricular activities.

Dr. Brynteson commented on being a board member for 8 years spending her professional career encouraging students to work together. She was in favor of a hybrid scenario allowing students to continue working together while providing a safe educational environment under the ISBE, IDPH and CDC guidelines.

Mrs. Ratliff stated students learn differently and was not opposed to a new plan.

Mrs. Andrews asked for answers to the current questions as well as a timeline to produce a best choice plan by the next board meeting.

Mr. O’Daniell shared the survey results with the board and stated he would not present a plan that would sacrifice the safety of staff and students.

Mr. Cleveland asked to work on an afterschool care plan allowing for a 6 pm pick up time to help working parents. He also shared concerns over a hybrid plan by last name and remote learning.

Mr. O’Daniell commented on working with the Genoa Park District and current GK Staff to help with afterschool care. He also commented on the hybrid plan and consideration for blended families. He further commented on the district’s responsibility to provide professional development for staff.

Dr. Hintzsche asked about a teacher survey.

Mr. O’Daniell commented on previous surveys and those that were a part of the fall re-entry planning. He also reiterated Mr. Owen’s earlier comments stating teachers want to be in the classroom but want to do it safely following the guidelines.

The board asked to hear from Mr. Owen.

Mr. Owen commented on the concerns of the teachers going back in the classroom and stated he would send out a staff survey by building and bring it to the next board meeting.

Mr. O’Daniell will work with work with the team to create a 4-5 day option for grades K-5 and hybrid for grades 6-12 as well as survey results for the next board meeting.

Mrs. Andrews publicly thanked the administrative team, staff and team for their efforts creating the school re-entry plan.

Mr. O’Daniell thanked the public and virtual guests for attending the meeting and sharing their input. He also stated he would address questions in a Return to School Plan FAQ’s list, which will be available on the district website and social media sites following the meeting.
Approval of Resolution 2020-2021 Re: Reopening and Requirements for Use of Personal Protective Equipment (Including Face Coverings) and Symptom Screening During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Mr. O’Daniell shared a resolution to give the superintendent the authority to make changes necessary during COVID-19 guidelines. This resolution has nothing to do with the re-entry plan.

Mr. Cleveland and Dr. Hintzsche were not in favor of supporting the current resolution due to wanting the board involved in all aspects and decisions of the district, ISBE, IDPH and CDC guidelines and recommended holding special board meetings in the event of changes to eliminate the burden on the superintendent.

Mrs. Andrews commented on the resolution providing flexibility to the superintendent in real-time with the board having the final say.

Dr. Brynteson and Mr. Wesner supported the resolution as to not delay decisions by the superintendent for the safety of staff and students during COVID-19.

Dr. Hintzsche asked about the resolution language superintendent and/or superintendent designee.

Mr. O’Daniell stated the superintendent designee would be the Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Shortridge.

A motion was made by Mr. Wesner, and second by Dr. Brynteson, to approve Resolution 2020-2021 Re: Reopening and Requirements for Use of Personal Protective Equipment (Including Face Coverings) and Symptom Screening During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Ayes: Brynteson, Ratliff, Wesner, Andrews
Nays: Cleveland, Hintzsche
Motion Carried.

Mr. Cleveland recommended a 5-minute recess.

Mrs. Andrews requested a 5-minute recess at 9:27 pm

The Board reconvened the meeting at 9:37 pm.

Bond Discussion

Mr. Cleveland asked about a follow up to questions regarding the Bond discussed at a previous board meeting.

Dr. Shortridge commented on a recent email from PMA.

Budget Discussion

A budget discussion will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020.
Board Discussion

Genoa-Kingston High School Graduation will be held on Sunday, July 26, 2020.

Superintendent/Board Communication

There is only one Meeting in July
Tuesday, July 28, 2020 BOE Meeting

Future Agenda Items

**July 28, 2020 Board of Education Meeting @ 7:00 pm**
Approval of Board Policy 6:190 - Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities
Approval of Return to School Plan
Discussion/Approval of Tentative FY-21 Budget Display/Hearing
Amended 2020-2021 Public School Calendar
Discussion/Approval of Park District After-School Child Care Program Intergovernmental Agreement
Banking Resolutions
Genoa Kingston/Kishwaukee College MOU for Dual Credit Classes
Discussion/Approval of Pay to Shuttle Program
Acceptance & Preliminary Approval of Resignations and Hiring’s
Discussion/Approval of NIA Ballot
Board Discussion
Bond Discussion
Budget Discussion

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)

No closed session needed.

Reconvene to Open Session

None.

Personnel Action

None.

Adjournment

A motion was made by, Mr. Wesner and second by Mrs. Ratliff, to adjourn the Special Board of Education Meeting at 10:39 pm.
Roll Call: Mr. Cleveland, Dr. Hintzsche, Mrs. Ratliff, Mr. Wesner, Dr. Brynteson, Mrs. Andrews

Ayes: Mr. Cleveland, Dr. Hintzsche, Mrs. Ratliff, Mr. Wesner, Dr. Brynteson and Mrs. Andrews

Nays: 0

Absent: John Shipley

Motion Carried.

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Board President, Mrs. Kristen Andrews

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Board Secretary, Dr. Mary Hintzsche