

Geneva Area City Board of Education
August 21, 2019

The Board of Education of the Geneva Area City School District met in regular session at 7:00 p.m., August 21, 2019, in the High School Auditorium. The meeting was called to order by President Arndt.

Roll Call: Present: Mr. Arndt, Mr. Brashear, Mr. Dana, Ms. Fisher, Mrs. Ortiz, Superintendent Kujala, and Treasurer Lillie

Absent: None

Visitors

& Guests: Administrative Assistant Horvath; Principals Anderson, Burzanko, Doherty, Gustin, and Wetherholt; Assistant Principals Markijohn and Mollohan; Building Systems Manager Jarrod Burgard; OAPSE representatives; newspaper reporters; and other citizens

Certification by Treasurer of Compliance with Meeting Requirements Rules

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Arndt led the Pledge of Allegiance

Correspondence

Mr. Kujala shared a card from the Geneva Academic Boosters thanking the Board for supporting the ABC Adult Spelling Bee. Ten deserving Geneva High School seniors received academic scholarships thanks to those who participated in the Bee.

Agenda Modification

Several agenda modifications were made.

Hearing of Public

There was none.

Approval of Minutes

119-19

Mr. Dana moved, seconded by Mrs. Ortiz, to approve the minutes of the regular session on July 17, 2019, as presented by the Treasurer. Roll Call: YES: Arndt, Brashear, Dana, Fisher, and Ortiz. Motion carried.

Financial Report

120-19

Mr. Brashear moved, seconded by Mr. Dana, to approve the July, 2019 financial report as presented by the Treasurer. Roll Call: YES: Brashear, Dana, Fisher, Ortiz, and Arndt. Motion carried.

Approval of Invoices

121-19

Mrs. Ortiz moved, seconded by Ms. Fisher, to approve the July, 2019 invoices as paid and listed by the Treasurer. Roll Call: YES: Dana, Fisher, Ortiz, Arndt and Brashear. Motion carried.

Informational Items – Current Investments (see addendum file)

Donations:	\$18,500	from an anonymous donor to purchase 100 Chromebooks for Geneva Platt R. Spencer.
	\$1,000	from the Geneva Letterman Association to assist with 2019-2020 sports pay to participate fees for those in need.

Legislative Report

Ms. Fisher reported that this has been a slow month, as the flurry of activity in Columbus last month getting the biennial budget passed has calmed down. HB 321 was the only new bill introduced, and it deals with sexual abuse education. It would require age appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention.

HB 166, the budget bill, did pass with some line-item vetoes from Governor DeWine. Among those vetoes was changing the ballot language for levies, giving a tax break to residential developers, allowing teachers to teach a grade level or subject they are not certified for, and allowing a tax break for certain high income neighborhoods of the Orange City School District. The last one would have opened the door for similar breaks for upscale neighborhoods all over the state.

Ms. Fisher gave a brief update on charter schools. According to prior regulations, charter schools that received an “F” rating in two out of three years would be shut down. Now they need to achieve an “F” rating three years in a row to be shut down. That means no charters will be closed this year and they have an additional year to improve their scores. This change offers a reprieve for up to 52 at-risk charter schools and gives them an additional year to not properly educate our students. This was among several changes designed to help charter schools avoid penalties.

According to Columbus Dispatch, charter school enrollment is down. There are now 315 charter schools from a high of 395. They have 104,439 students as opposed to 121,000 in the peak year. Remember, about \$6,000 follows each student out of a public system. However, the enrollment number is expected to rise because 10 new charter schools have yet to report. For the first year of charters in 1997, there were 15 schools. With few rules and lax oversight, schools opened quickly to more than 300 by 2004 and almost 400 in 2013. The legislature started cracking down on some of the regulations like enrollment reporting, and schools started to close. However, recently the legislature has taken action to help charter schools

keep their doors open, like the additional time to meet standards mentioned before. In addition, schools that reach a certain performance standard will receive an additional \$1,750 for each student who is economically disadvantaged and \$1,000 more for each who is not. This is in addition to the extra year given to those 52 with failing grades.

Mr. Lillie added that he attended a School Funding Workgroup meeting last month, and a standalone bill has been introduced. It still hasn't been assigned a subcommittee to hear testimony yet. Cupp and Patterson hope that it will be assigned to their subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education. Mr. Lillie encouraged the audience to send emails to Speaker of the House Larry Householder, who controls committee assignments in the House and what bills will be heard, and to the Finance and Education Committees of both the House and the Senate. This is the first effort to actually define what is needed to educate Ohio's students, and it needs grassroots support.

Mr. Brashear wanted to verify something. He said that in our packets, we have something from the Coalition for Equity and Adequacy, and one of the most outspoken proponents for us is Bill Phillis. If you look at his letter here, he starts it out that things are moving in a positive direction, but he did not garner that from Mr. Lillie's statements. Mr. Lillie pointed out that the letter was dated June 7th and the budget wasn't a done deal. There are still positives in that a lot of people heard the funding recommendations, a lot of people agree with the work that was done, but the legislature found reasons not to put it through. One of the reasons was the governor's budget for student wellness and mental health took a lot of money that would have pushed it beyond spending limitations with Cupp/Patterson. There were also complaints from Householder that many urban and rural low wealth districts weren't receiving enough money but wealthy districts were. Mr. Lillie explained that districts that had been capped had never realized full funding for the students they are educating. With the removal of the cap, money was now going to those districts. When you look at district profiles available on the ODE website, you will see that all the urban districts receive and spend double what Geneva has. Even some of the rural poverty districts, including those in Householder's district, have money. So the positives are that the message has been heard, and there is still hope with the standalone bill, plus the fact that 66 House representatives have signed on as co-sponsors of HB 305.

A-Tech Report

Mr. Brashear reported that Atech had their opening day and it all went very well, with 537 students enrolled and very few absent. Mr. Brashear passed around a 2019-2020 Important Dates Calendar for Ashtabula County Schools, an Atech organizational chart, and an Atech calendar complete with many pictures of

students. Mr. Brashear noted that the Annual Advisory Dinner will take place on October 10, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The RN Graduation Ceremony will be held on Thursday, August 29th at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Mr. Brashear brought up the City of Conneaut's tax incremental financing for the Truck World Truck Stop and Gas Station as something the Atech Board would be keeping an eye on. Mr. Brashear shared information on the upcoming TIE (Teachers, Industry and Environment) Conference being held in Columbus on October 9-11, 2019. This is an opportunity for our science teachers in grades 3 through 8 to attend a conference focused on STEM.

Report of the Superintendent

Mr. Kujala provided a brief update on opening day activities and upcoming changes in the District. He provided in the Board packets a Waiver Day agenda and the Opening Day agenda. There are professional development activities for all our staff starting with Drug-Free Workplace training first thing in the morning. We also have training going on for our bus drivers, kitchen staff, and educational assistants during the day, and many of our elementary teachers will be at the Middle School for PAX training, which is a program coordinated with the PBIS model and provides teachers and administrators practical, tiered intervention strategies to help students learn important self-management skills while they collaborate to make their classroom a more productive learning environment. Many of our teachers have had this training, but this will train the majority of the rest of our elementary teachers. This will be happening tomorrow along with some sessions provided by University Hospitals on health screenings, facts about ticks/lyme disease, and breast cancer information. In the afternoon, there will be sessions on trauma informed care, stress reduction, and professional code of conduct changes. On Opening Day, the GI's will kick off our year again. Mr. Kujala said he will give opening remarks titled "Every Little Thing" and then Mr. Arndt will share his remarks with the teachers.

Mr. Kujala also wanted to share some of the changes going on at the High School, Middle School, and elementary. With some of the reductions we've had, the principals have started to think of other ways we can provide some learning opportunities to our students. At the Middle School, they are changing from a 9-period day to an 8-period day, and the High School will go from a 7-period day to an 8-period day, so we will have the same number of periods at both. With the addition of our Assistant Band Director, 6th grade will have the chance to take Band, 7th and 8th grades will be able to take band, choir or both, and students in grade 6 thru 8 who did not pass the AIR test will be involved in a developmental reading class. Each of the grade levels will be teaching some focus courses during the 9-week periods. Sixth grade will be doing 9 weeks on Issues in Social Studies-Geography, Problem-Solving Skills, and Creative Writing. Shop was added for 6th-8th through

Atech, with Joe Chiacchiero teaching the course, and they helped us re-establish the tools and equipment in the shop. This is part of the push to start building career-readiness for students that might not go on to college but may have an interest in some of the trade areas. Seventh grade will be working on Issues in Social Studies-Economics, Robotics, and Journalism. Eighth grade will have Issues in Social Studies-Government, Career Exploration, and Communications/Speech. At the High School, seniors will have a late arrival and early dismissal policy to help many of our students stay on campus instead of going out and looking for other opportunities. Art will be increased by 2 periods, AP Environmental Science has been added, all freshman will be taking computer applications, and ADOBE programming has been added. There will be remediation classes in Math, Science, English and Social Studies for any student who did not test proficient in those areas. Busing is back for the High School, which he thinks many are happy about, and they will continue with PBIS by adding a Positive Behavior Intervention Center for Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions. There will also be a Modern History through Film class, morning announcements will now go through the English department, and there will be a Speech class. This represents lots of new, very cost-neutral items that have been added.

The big push at the elementary schools will be to continue with PBIS, they have the new Reading series, and they will have the PAX training completed school-wide at all elementary schools. Many positive actions are being taken by our administrators and teachers, so there are great things to look forward to in 2019-20. Mr. Brashear commented that he wished there were more people here to hear it.

Ohio Coalition for
Equity & Adequacy

122-19

Upon Mr. Kujala's recommendation, Mr. Brashear moved, seconded by Ms. Fisher, that the Board renew its membership in the Ohio Coalition for Equity & Adequacy of School Funding for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$1,120 (Regular dues: most recent report card enrollment (2,240) x \$.50 = \$1,120). Roll Call: YES: Fisher, Ortiz, Arndt, Brashear, and Dana. Motion carried.

Strategic Plan

123-19

Upon Mr. Kujala's recommendation, Mr. Brashear moved, seconded by Mrs. Ortiz, that the Board approve the Strategic Plan for the Geneva Area City School District for the three year period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022. Ms. Fisher stated that she has been tutoring in the kindergarten at GPS for the past five years. It's been somewhat dismaying, because she had five students in 1st grade who weren't reading, and some of them didn't even know their alphabet. She asked for some statistics from the kindergarten teachers. She felt that these kids are starting so far behind. Of 33 students, 19 scored 100% or better on improvement over the course of the year in reading and math, but less than 50% of the

class was first grade ready. Some of the kids had improvement of 140% from where they were at the beginning of the year, but at the end of the year, they still weren't ready for 1st grade. In the morning group, 7 were below grade, while 13 were below grade in the afternoon in reading. In math, 4 in the morning were below grade, and 14 in the afternoon were below grade. She said that she called every district in Ashtabula County, and Geneva is the only one that has half-day kindergarten. She confirmed that Madison also had half-day kindergarten. She was upset that all-day, every-day kindergarten seemed like an afterthought in the Strategic Plan. She said that she met with Mr. Kujala and we are going to maybe get together with Madison and brainstorm some out-of-the-box ways to get kids prepared for kindergarten. Other than that, there's an awful lot of stuff in this Strategic Plan, and if we can get even a portion of it accomplished, we'll be doing a really great job.

Mr. Dana said we've discussed the kindergarten situation as a Board before. We've changed from every other day to half-day because some kids were missing large chunks of days when school was cancelled during the winter, and it was felt that would have a positive impact. He wondered what the latest research says about half-day versus every-day kindergarten, and if Mr. Kujala could address whether we've seen any improvements. Mr. Kujala responded that half-day has helped with the consistency of seeing students without long lapses, and we have seen improvement, but the full-day program is something that we've discussed. He felt that a full-day program would be helpful moving forward. He said that research shows that it doesn't make a lot of difference by 3rd grade if you have quality teachers along the way, and we have a lot of quality teachers, so we see students caught up by 3rd grade. We will continue to look at data to see how students did from kindergarten through 3rd grade, and we will see if there are other things we can do. We'll look at our financial picture, and full-day kindergarten is one of our goals. Ms. Fisher said that 10% of kindergarten classrooms were all-day in the 1970s, and now it's 80%, and there has to be a reason for that. She doesn't believe the argument that kids of that age have a hard time spending that many hours in class, because most of the kids go to daycare for that many hours. Her research also showed that socio-economic levels have a direct impact, and we have a lot of transient students at GPS.

Mr. Brashear said that this is an excellent Strategic Plan, and one of the things it does is force conversations like this. One of the other things he likes about a strategic plan is if this is truly one of our goals, does it fit within the strategic objectives. It is very difficult to argue that we need to start our children off with a firm foundation, and the more quality time we can give our teachers with them, it has to be beneficial. Then you have to look at the objective of is it fiscally stable, and that's where we've always run into a problem. The other thing he like about a

strategic plan is that it is a living document that we should always refer to. Mr. Brashear wanted to point out that as you look at the Strategic Plan there were 158 barriers cited, including the top three of money (32%), time (23%) and people (9%). The other thing he wanted to point out are the owners, the responsible teams for every action. In this Strategic Plan, 225 responsibilities were doled out, and there were only 12 options given, with 28% falling under administration, 21% will fall to the Superintendent, 12% to teachers and staff, 8% to the Treasurer, and 8% to the Board of Education. If you break it down by the numbers, it's an incredible Strategic Plan, but he's concerned about the big three barriers, because they've been our barriers for a long time. He loves the fact that our community helped us come to the big three problems that we have, and he hopes that this gets the community behind us to support us. He hopes that people truly take the time to look at this Strategic Plan. One of the other things he wanted to point out was communication, because as good as we are technology-wise, one of our biggest problems is still how to communicate. He would recommend that we print out the Strategic Plan and have it sitting on a table at the entrance of a volleyball game, or at least have a sign there asking if people have viewed our Strategic Plan. This should be done at every sports event, plays and concerts.

Mr. Arndt was concerned with the previous comment about the reading levels in 1st grade. He said that we have a core group of 1st grade teachers assigned to our three elementary schools and we have three principals at those elementary schools, but he doesn't see them here raising concerns about 1st grade reading levels. He sees concern with the Board, he sees concern when we have executive meetings and discussions on improvement for third grade reading. He told Mr. Kujala that he would like to see what their thoughts are on this. Mr. Kujala added that our three elementary principals have shared those concerns with him often, but they also have understood the financial constraints we're under as a District. The teachers have shared those concerns with the principals. They have all been very diligent in doing everything they can within their buildings with the restrictions that we have to put in programming, supports and interventions, with the time, with the funds, with the people that we have. Mr. Dana added that it shocks him to hear that we have a failed charter industry, yet the legislature's response is to give them an extra year to avoid closure and to give them extra money per student. While there are some traditional public schools struggling, the majority have been doing a good job for many years, but there is no financial incentive for doing it right all these years. We need to continue to talk about these issues. Roll Call: YES: Ortiz, Arndt, Brashear, Dana, and Fisher. Motion carried.

Upon Mr. Kujala's recommendation, Mr. Brashear moved, seconded by Mrs. Ortiz, that the Board approve the agreement with Future Energy Solutions. Mr. Kujala said that we have guests here from Future Energy Solutions to give a brief summary of the program, and they'll be able to answer questions. He introduced Joe Sturm, the Lighting Sales Manager for Enertech, who met with us earlier to introduce the program. Mr. Dana asked what contract we were dealing with here. Mr. Sturm responded that we would be considering the Energy Savings Agreement and the Addendum to that contract represented by the letter attached. Mr. Kujala asked Mr. Sturm to give a brief overview of the program, and Mr. Sturm introduced John Donofrio, President of Enertech Electrical, Inc., and Wayne Burrell, National Sales Director for Future Energy Solutions (FES) out of Florida. Mr. Sturm said that they are unlike any other company that sells lighting or invests in the lighting market. The reason they can do what they do is there is an investment company involved that allows them to do the program at no capital cost. They do a lighting audit at a school building, counting all the lights and recording their wattages, and the school provides electric bills and the hours of operation that the lights are burning. Their engineers plug the info into their math formula to show what is paid for lighting costs only in a building. If a building qualifies for the program, they show what a school will pay for the lighting in a building. They upgrade the lighting in the entire building at zero capital cost and enter into a 15-year contract for maintenance of parts and labor. The company receives 75% of the energy savings created and the school keeps 25% of the savings plus saves on any and all maintenance fees for the next 15 years. If a school goes with the program, they will have two bills – the electric bill from the power company, which is lowered substantially, and the bill from FES for the 75% savings, and both combined are lower than what is being paid right now. Mr. Burrell added that the campus becomes green in terms of being socially responsible to the environment and the community. The compensation calculated is based on today's 2019 kilowatt-hour cost that a district currently pays to the power company, so if rates go up, there is an inflation hedge. They are the manufacturer of the lighting products, and their fixtures are designed not to fail.

Mr. Brashear had a couple of questions that he knew the stakeholders are going to ask. How could we possibly already need a company to come in and replace lights at a school that we just built with coordination from the state that was already green? Mr. Burrell explained that a site qualifies for the program based on the existing technology in the building. The lighting industry already considers the lighting in this building old technology. We still have halogen lights that burn warmer and take away from the A/C, while LED's don't burn hot so you get the energy savings on lower consumption, and it's also less of a burden on HVAC. Mr. Brashear noted that it was said there is no capital expense, but is there a labor

expense to the initial installation. Mr. Sturm responded that there is no labor expense, and the Middle School has already qualified for the program. He added that in addition to the soft audit that has been done to create the contract, once a district decides to move forward with the program, Eneritech comes back and does a hard audit to verify all the information, and adjustments are made if necessary. Mr. Brashear asked Mr. Sturm to confirm that the only way they make money is off the energy savings calculated, and Mr. Sturm answered that was correct. Mr. Sturm added that FES receives the compensation monthly. Mr. Burrell also explained that they provide data loggers at their expense to track how much time lights are on for one year, and if there is a need for an adjustment, they go back to day one and do a true-up. Mr. Brashear asked how many other schools in the state of Ohio are currently under contract. Mr. Sturm responded that Lowellville Local and Columbiana Exempted Village are the first two public schools in Ohio they have done.

Mr. Dana asked if we had our attorney take a look at this, and Mr. Kujala answered that we did not. Mr. Dana said there is language in the contract he doesn't like. While he likes the overriding arch that says all disputes will be handled by binding arbitration, he said there is ambiguity in the contract because 7.(c) makes reference to a particular liability where we would "indemnify and hold harmless FES from all loss, cost, and expenses including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses", and he wondered if they would be willing to remove that language. Mr. Dana also had an issue with 7.(b) because we were waiving defenses of any kind or nature. He wondered if the intent was to limit what the school's remedies are and protect FES. Mr. Burrell responded that the contract is more in FES's favor because they are providing the funding. However, the Lowellville District's attorney worked on this contract and had this information approved to be used by any public school in the state, and in the side letter, Section 7.(c) is deleted in its entirety. The side letter is serving as an addendum to the Master Agreement.

Mr. Arndt asked some additional questions that were answered by Mr. Burrell. Mrs. Ortiz asked what makes us qualify for the program. Mr. Burrell explained that since they only get paid from the savings, they need to see that they can cover all their costs including financing and meet their profit threshold. Mrs. Ortiz also noted that here were some lights that had already been retrofitted to LED. Mr. Sturm explained that in order to include any light for the 15-year maintenance, they needed to calculate the LED light as if it had not been upgraded. Mr. Arndt had Mr. Burrell and Mr. Sturm clarify what maintenance was covered. Mr. Dana asked if we had checked this out with the other Ohio districts. Mr. Burgard said that he spoke to the Superintendent at Lowellville, and he spoke highly about the program. Mr. Burgard added that he would stand behind

the program and was looking forward to the time savings from us not having to maintain the lights. Mr. Kujala said the intriguing thing is the savings in time and money. Mr. Lillie explained that we have taken advantage of programs with other companies to help us save money, but nothing on this scale. He is impressed with the savings potential of the program. Roll Call: YES: Arndt, Brashear, Dana, Fisher, and Ortiz. Motion carried.

Section 403(b) Plan
TSA Consulting Group

125-19

Upon Mr. Kujala's recommendation, Mr. Brashear moved, seconded by Mrs. Ortiz, adoption of a new Section 403(b) Plan Document for the Geneva Area City School District to supersede the Plan Document adopted on June 25, 2008, using TSA Consulting Group, Inc. to administer the plan, and authorizing the Treasurer to sign any documents implementing this change. Mr. Lillie explained that the District previously adopted a Plan Document back in 2008 because of IRS changes requiring it. The 403(b) and 457(b) program is supplemental retirement for our employees where they are able to make tax-deferred deductions. There are a lot of compliance issues and IRS changes that make this program difficult to administer, and we have been self-administering the program since 2008. We have a company that is willing to administer the program at no cost to the District, as they charge the 403(b) Providers \$2 per participant per month, and the Providers pay. TSA Consulting Group would assume the administration of our plan and they have recommended we adopt a new Plan Document to be up to date with new IRS regulations. Mr. Dana asked if this changed any terms or conditions of employment, and Mr. Lillie answered that it did not. Mr. Dana also asked if the program was voluntary, and Mr. Lillie answered yes. TSA is a program benchmarked by the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. There is also a resolution to approve naming TSA as the Plan Administrator. Roll Call: YES: Brashear, Dana, Fisher, Ortiz, and Arndt. Motion carried.

2019-2020 Personnel

126-19

Upon Mr. Kujala's recommendation, Mrs. Ortiz moved, seconded by Mr. Dana, the following personnel actions for the 2018-2019 contract year:

a. Resignation

Sheila M. Tidwell, Cafeteria Worker, effective 08/06/19

c. Resignation Extra-Curricular

Anne C. Markijohn - 11th Grade Class Sponsor

d. Change of Contract

Rachel A. Beardsley-Holbert from Tutor, hours-to be assigned, to full-time Teacher, effective 8/22/19

Betsy K. Lehtonen, Special Needs Assistant, hours-to-be-assigned, 9 mos./year, from Cork, 5 days/week to Geneva Platt R. Spencer, 3 days/week, effective 08/22/19

Lisa D. Prouty, Special Needs Assistant, hours-to-be-assigned, 9 mos./year, from Austinburg, 4 days/week to Geneva Platt R. Spencer, 5 days/week, effective 08/22/19

James K. Zukoski, Housekeeper, 7 hrs./day, from Middle School, 9 mos./year to Austinburg, 12 mos./year, effective 08/05/19

- e. The hiring of the following personnel on a one-year contract, to be paid according to the adopted wage guidelines, subject to meeting certification requirements of the State of Ohio, as well as a satisfactory physical examination, background check and/or other training, if applicable.

1) Tutor - Hours-to-be-assigned (Contingent upon funding)

Alice G. Colucci
Lauren E. Mauric
Tina S. Markel
Margaret J. Slowey

2) Homebound Tutor

Corinne M. Ball
Rachel A. Beardsley-Holbert
James R. Berei
Marie E. Best
Curtis Y. Bryan
Deborah L. Cardaman
Robert M. DiPofi
Jessica M. George
Anne C. Markijohn
Julie L. Simmons
Nicole E. Turk
Brenda S. Unsinger

3) Extra-Curricular

Kristen J. Berg - Detention Supervisor GPS
Annah M. Haeseler - 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Class Sponsor
Anne C. Markijohn - 12th Grade Class Sponsor

4) Substitute Teacher

Patricia A. Cahill
Tyler L. Cahill
Holly M. Hanna
Charlotte B. Lakota
Margaret J. Stehura

5) Bus Driver

Cynthia G. Valvoda, Bus Driver, 4.75 hrs./day, 9 mos./year, effective 8/22/19

6) Adult Substitute Secretary & Educational Assistant

Angela D. Dempsey
Michelle G. Elek
Betsy K. Lehtonen
Cassandra N. Murray

7) Cafeteria Substitute

Angela D. Dempsey
Michelle G. Elek

8) Substitute Housekeeper

Angela D. Dempsey
Matthew E. Hanna

9) Substitute Custodian II/III

Matthew E. Hanna

10) Substitute Bus Driver

Maureen A. Amato
Sarah L. Moore
Janice S. Patterson

11) Activity Workers

Craig Austin	Walter Lininger
John Barbo	Anne Markijohn
Jim Bradbury	Robert McQuoid
Joseph Carroll	Corrie Newhart
Kathy Carroll	JoAnn O'Connor
Julie Crossley	Brian O'Dell
Michele DiGiacomo	Kanda O'Dell
Kerry Gerken	Nancy Patterson

Roll Call: YES: Dana, Fisher, Ortiz, Arndt and Brashear. Motion carried.

GAMBA Fundraiser/
Sponsorship

Mr. Kujala noted that he provided an information sheet to Board members before the meeting about a GAMBA fundraiser. GAMBA is conducting some fundraisers to help with the band and choir trip to Disney this year. He told them he would share with the Board information about the Family Putt-Putt on Saturday, September 14th at

Adventure Zone at Geneva-on-the-Lake. The information is included for a sponsorship, if any Board members would be interested or would just like to attend to support GAMBA.

Smoke Vent Doors Update

Mr. Kujala provided an update on the smoke vent door project. There was a change in the project. Originally, they were going to use the same openings for the new smoke vent doors. The contractor realized that the old doors were heavily flashed into the roof and removing them may have caused more issues. They cut new openings next to the old doors and installed them. Installation is completed, but they are finishing some cable installation and safety rails. The new doors are hinged and open to the side, which is the reason for the safety rails. The old doors have been sealed to prevent any water/moisture entering, and the cables have been cut so the old doors cannot be accidentally opened. Final items should be finished on Thursday and Friday before the school year starts. Mr. Dana asked if there was additional cost, and Mr. Brashear asked if there was a reduction in cost. Mr. Kujala answered that he didn't think there was a reduction or any additional cost. Mr. Arndt said as much conversation as these doors have garnered, is there a way for us to view these doors? Mr. Kujala responded that we could probably arrange a tour.

School Resource Officer

Mr. Kujala reported that he spoke with City Manager Starkey regarding the School Resource Officer. The job description was finished, and the School District had input on the details. A Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 26th, and after that the position will be posted as long as everything goes as planned. The city will have a five day internal posting, then they will begin interviews in early September with the hopes of having someone in place by the end of September. He knows the Board did mention that maybe someone on the Board would like to be involved in the interview process. He will have the M.S. Principal, the H.S. Principal, and Joe Carroll involved, but if there is someone on the Board who wants to be involved, please let him know so they can be involved as interview times are set.

M.S and H.S. Bronze PBIS Awards

Mr. Kujala said he wanted to recognize some schools for awards that were received over the summer. Both Geneva Middle School and Geneva High School received a Bronze Award for PBIS. There was an incredible amount of work that went into that. Through our State Support Team in Region 5, they had to include all the documentation and data notebook to show the progress we made using the PBIS model. Congratulations to both schools for all their work.

Science Dept. Award

Mr. Kujala noted that we also received notification from the Ohio Academy of Science that there were 54 Ohio schools and 556 teachers who received the Governor's Thomas Edison Award for Excellence in STEM Education. Geneva Schools had six

teachers recognized including Eileen Dragon, Nicole Turk, Anne Markijohn, Brian Belconis, John Barbo and Wendy Booth. Congratulations to all of these teachers for promoting our local science fairs and advancing students to the district and state levels.

Adjournment

127-19

Mr. Dana moved, seconded by Mrs. Ortiz, to adjourn the regular session at 9:07 p.m. Roll Call: YES: Fisher, Ortiz, Arndt, Brashear, and Dana. Motion carried.

The foregoing is a true and accurate record of the minutes and proceedings of the regular session held by the Board of Education of the Geneva Area City School District on August 15, 2018.