

Geneva Area City Board of Education
January 21, 2026

The Board of Education of the Geneva Area City School District met in regular session at 6:30 p.m., January 21, 2026, in the High School Auditorium. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Krieg.

Roll Call: Present: Mr. Andrus, Mr. Cooper, Mrs. Cybulski, Mrs. Krieg, Mr. Pierson, Superintendent Lombardo, and Treasurer McDermott

Certification by Treasurer of Compliance with Meeting Requirements Rules

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Krieg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Waive Reading and
Approval of Minutes

23-26

Mr. Pierson moved, seconded by Mrs. Cybulski, to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the regular session on December 17, 2025, the organizational meeting on January 7, 2026 and the special meeting on January 10, 2026 as presented by the Treasurer. Roll Call: YES: Andrus, Cooper, Cybulski, Krieg and Pierson. Motion carried.

Student Recognition

The following students were recognized by Dr. Lombardo and the Board of Education:

Austinburg Elementary -	Robert Bernardo, Daniel Gregg, Reid McNeil, Kenaid Navarro
Cork Elementary -	Sharon Griffiths, Elise Jones, Zander Ostberg, Madison Stolz
Geneva Platt R. Spencer -	Journey Ice, Sydney Virant
Geneva Middle School -	Jarod Bowers, Nora Gregory, Lauren Limpert, Alyssa Miller
Geneva High School -	Grace Andrus, Riley Andrus, Kailyn Cerjan, Max Cochran, William Dushney, Addelyn Sheppard

Eagle Team Member
of the Month

The following employees were honored as Eagle Team Member of the Month:

Austinburg Elementary - Cindy Rogaski, Teacher
Cork Elementary - Terrie Grimmett, Custodian
Geneva Platt R. Spencer - Mary Dudik, Special Needs Assistant
Geneva Middle School - Alice Colucci, Teacher
Geneva High School - Nancy Barbo, Teacher
Bus/Maintenance/BOE - Roberta Horvath, EMIS

School Board
Recognition Month

Dr. Lombardo noted that each January we join with the Ohio School Boards Association to celebrate and recognize our local Boards of Education.

As citizens who serve children and represent their communities, individual school board members face complex and demanding challenges. Their love of learning and concern and caring for students, staff and the community drive board members' desire to lead so students can achieve.

Dr. Lombardo said it was his pleasure to recognize our board members and to thank them for their service to our district:

Mr. Steven Andrus beginning his first year of service
Mr. Joseph Cooper beginning his first year of service
Mrs. Elizabeth Cybulski with two years of service
Mrs. Michele Krieg with two years of service
Mr. Brock Pierson with two years of service

Public Comment

None.

Athletic Hallway Presentation

Ms. Jennifer Crossley, Athletic Director, discussed the ongoing athletic hallway upgrade, which is being completed through volunteer efforts and private donations. She also reviewed prior donation-funded projects, including the removal and framing of the old gym floor eagle logo, as well as the installation of gym wall banners, door wraps, and PVC boards.

Report of the Superintendent

Letter of Understanding

24-26

Upon Dr. Lombardo's recommendation, Mr. Cooper moved, seconded by Mr. Andrus, approval of the Letter of Understanding between Geneva Area City Schools Board of Education and GATA. Roll Call: YES: Cooper, Cybulski, Krieg, Pierson and Andrus. Motion carried.

NEOLA

Upon Dr. Lombardo's recommendation, Mr. Pierson moved, seconded by Mrs. Cybulski a motion to accept the following new/revised/replacement policies for Board adoption.

Policy 5112 – Entrance Requirements
Policy 7440.03 – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones)
Policy 9700.01 – Advertising and Commercial Activities

25-26

Roll Call: YES: Cybulski, Krieg, Pierson, Andrus and Cooper. Motion carried.

Last Chance Agreement

Upon Dr. Lombardo's recommendation, Mrs. Cybulski moved, seconded by Mr. Cooper, approval of the enclosed Last Chance Agreement between and employee and Geneva Area City Schools Board of Education. Roll Call: YES: Krieg, Pierson, Andrus, Cooper and Cybulski. Motion carried.

26-26

2025-2026 Personnel

Upon Dr. Lombardo's recommendation, Mrs. Cybulski moved, seconded by Mr. Andrus, the following personnel actions for the 2025-2026 School year:

27-26

- a. 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

Jennifer Cork, effective 01/21/26

2) Extra - Curricular Assignment

Jeff Griffiths - Assistant Boys Tennis

Forrest Long - Assistant Varsity Boys Track

Anna Minick - One Acts Director for Spring 2026

Seth Negin - Assistant Baseball

3) Substitute Secretary

Alyssa Palmisano, effective 01/09/26

4) Substitute Educ. Assist./SNA

Kristin Arkkelin

5) Substitute Cafeteria

Kristin Arkkelin

b. Leave of Absence

Kathleen Kany, Bus Driver, revised Medical Leave of Absence, was 11/02/25 through 01/15/26, now through 02/01/26

Lisa Prouty, Special Needs Assistant, Medical Leave of Absence, effective 1/28/26, through approximately 02/06/26

c. Retirement

Cindy Rogaski, Teacher, effective 02/27/26. Ms. Rogaski has worked for Geneva Schools for 29 years.

Roll Call: YES: Pierson, Andrus, Cybulski and Krieg. ABSTAIN: Cooper. Motion carried.

Superintendent Presentation

The Superintendent presented his January 21, 2026 report, beginning with the introduction of Student Advisory Council members Amelia Armington, senior representative, and Bradley Hejduk, freshman

representative. The students shared updates on current high school activities, including the upcoming National Honor Society spaghetti dinner on February 10, wrestling senior night, and recent athletic highlights. The boys varsity basketball team stands at 8–4, junior varsity at 8–6, and freshman at 9–2. The girls varsity basketball team holds a 9–5 record, with basketball senior night scheduled for January 23. Additionally, the girls swim team won the CVC championship, and the boys swim team finished second.

Dr. Lombardo reviewed draft options for the 2026–2027 school calendar, including key start and end dates, scheduled breaks, and next steps for gathering staff and community feedback prior to adoption.

Dr. Lombardo is gathering information on a Family Resource Center and is holding community needs assessment listening sessions. There are community meetings scheduled for January 28th and February 3rd. Both are being held at 5:00 pm at the Geneva High School Media Center.

Mrs. Doherty, Principal of Cork Elementary, shared its building action plan, focusing on measurable math growth using NWEA MAP data, improving Grade 5 science proficiency for students with disabilities, and reducing chronic absenteeism through targeted relationship-building, engagement strategies, and attendance incentives.

Athletic Facility Discussion

Russell Gayheart of GPD led a discussion on a proposed revision to the athletic improvement project developed by Athletic Master Planning Committee #2 following the defeat of the bond issue in November, using only current district funds. He presented a project schedule that would have a substantial completion by August 2027.

28-26

Mrs. Krieg moved, seconded by Mr. Cooper, to approve the construction of an athletic facility on the High School campus not to exceed \$5.75 million dollars. Roll Call: YES: Cooper, Cybulski, Krieg, Pierson and Andrus. Motion carried.

Report of the Treasurer

Financial Report

29-26

Mrs. Krieg moved, seconded by Mr. Pierson, to approve the December 2025 financial report as presented by the Treasurer. Roll Call: YES: Cooper, Cybulski, Krieg, Pierson and Andrus. Motion carried.

Donation

The following donations were recognized by the District:

\$1,000 - Jo Hrisco Scholarship awarded to students for use toward the cost of higher education.

\$5,928.56 - Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation Safety and Security Grant. Funds to be used to purchase a 24" Walk Behind Disc Scrubber for the High School.

High School Athletic Event Hallway Donations:

- Ann Craig - \$40
- Anonymous donation - \$1000
- Anonymous donation - \$300
- Georganna and Randy Hartz - \$200
- Great Lakes Valet - \$175
- Grid Iron Club - \$1,000
- Joann O'Connor - \$100
- Kevin Hutchens - drove to Wooster to pick up supplies
- Madsen Donuts - \$200
- Michael King - \$20
- Sherwin Williams - 50% off paint for main event hallway
- Wooster Brush - All brushes and rollers

Approve Funds

Upon the Treasurer's recommendation, Mrs. Cybulski moved, seconded by Mrs. Krieg, that the following funds be appropriated according to the adopted budget.

30-26

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Fund Number</u>	<u>Approved Amount</u>
Unclaimed Monies	022-9111	\$ 50,000
Termination Benefits	035-0000	\$ 50,000
Auxiliary	401-9226	\$ 30,100
Title V - Rural	599-9126	\$ 67,000

Roll Call: YES: Cybulski, Krieg, Pierson, Andrus and Cooper. Motion carried.

Equipment Disposal

31-26

Mr. Pierson moved, seconded by Mr. Cooper, to approve the disposal of the attached list of assets, as they are no longer of any use to the District. Some items will be traded in or sold at public auction using Public Surplus. Roll Call: YES: Krieg, Pierson, Andrus, Cooper and Cybulski. Motion carried.

Legislative Report

Mr. Pierson provided a legislative update, noting that many currently publicized bills are unlikely to advance. He reported that anticipated property tax adjustments may be incorporated into broader legislation, including potential changes to the calculation of inside millage. Mr. Pierson met with a small group to discuss AI (artificial intelligence). He added that safety measures are in place, including monitoring for designated keywords.

A-Tech Report

Mrs. Krieg read the A-Tech report. They held their budget hearing, organizational meeting and regular board meeting on January 12th. Three vacant board seats were filled by two members from the ESC and one member from Conneaut. The sophomore showcase is tomorrow, January 22nd. The ninth graders from all Ashtabula districts will see the CTE exploration labs. Career Night and Open House is scheduled for January 29th from 5:00pm to 7:00 pm.

Board Reports

Mr. Pierson reported receiving correspondence regarding meeting audio levels, noting that some members are difficult to hear in recordings. He

thanked Cindy Rogaski for her 29 years of service to the district and wished her well. He addressed community concerns about snow days, noting that the district has 15 allotted days, and discussed attendance challenges, including the impact of fear of failure. He also suggested reviewing the use of QR codes if implemented, with attention to security considerations.

Mr. Andrus reported that he and Dr. Lombardo plan to tour district facilities.

Mrs. Krieg shared that the Board recently held its first retreat and will begin work on a board member handbook. She also recognized recent athletic achievements, including the boys swim team placing second at the All-County meet, the girls swim team placing first, and the girls team winning the CVC Lake East while the boys placed second. She additionally noted watching Academic Challenge on channel 5 and the Geneva team did a great job.

Mr. Cooper thanked the former board member for getting the board to where they are today and that the board made a big step forward tonight with the approval of the athletic facility.

Mrs. Cybulski welcomed the new board members and expressed enthusiasm for continuing the Board's work and future efforts.

Adjournment

Mr. Pierson moved, seconded by Mr. Andrus, to adjourn the regular session at 8:56 p.m. Roll Call: YES: Pierson, Andrus, Cooper, Cybulski and Krieg. Motion carried.

32-26

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 January 21, 2025.

Shelley McDermott, Treasurer

Michele L. Krieg, President