

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

5038 US Route 2 North Hero, Vermont 05474

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Superintendent's Report: August 31, 2015

Welcome: New Staff

Megan Brooks	Behavior Intervention	Alburgh
David Dabney	Language Arts	Alburgh
Amanda Langlois	Pre-K Assistant	Alburgh
Marjorie Nyland-Funke	Guidance	Alburgh
James Ross	Principal	Alburgh
Katrina Santamaria	Behavior Intervention	Alburgh
Silas Saxer	Behavior Intervention	Alburgh
Gretchen Farfaglia	Language Arts	Grand Isle
Lauren Landrigan	Special Education	Grand Isle
Katherine Lucas	Elementary Teacher	Grand Isle
Chelsea Vanslette	Behavior Intervention	Grand Isle
Colleen Cobb	Special Education	Isle La Motte
William Fish	Elementary Teacher	Isle La Motte
Thomas Tregan	Principal	Isle La Motte
Justin Bissonnette	Physical Education	North Hero
Cortney Jefferson	Special Education	North Hero
Kara Krikorian	Music Teacher	North Hero
Melinda Ransom	Elementary Teacher	North Hero
Cortney Jefferson	Special Education	North Hero
Martha Commins	Para Educator	Folsom
Hannah Morrison	Special Education	Folsom
Laura Myler	Elementary Teacher	Folsom
Linda Perry	Para Educator	Folsom
Phillip Peterson	MS Math/Science	Folsom
Andrew Riegler	Physical Education	Folsom
Cornelia Thoma	Library Media Specialist	Folsom
Reina Warren	MS Humanities	Folsom

Grant Funded / PT Postions:

Steve Vogl	Teacher Leader	Title II
Anne Brabazon	Teacher Leader	Title II
Jennifer Henderson	GISU ELL Teacher	All Schools
Terry Seekamp	Health Ed Coordinator	All Schools
Kristin Gehsmann	Words Their Way	Consultant
Claudine Bedell	Personal Learning Plans	Consultant
Elizabeth Moore	Writing Units	Consultant
Kerry Sewell	Data Integrationist	Consultant
Judi Maynard	MTSS /Curriculum	Coach
Hannah Putnam	NG Science Standards	Consultant
Lisa Italiano	Green Mtn Writing	Coach
Rebecca Cordonne	Green Mtn Writing	Coach

Board Chairs:

- All Board Chairs were contacted by Andy Julow, GISU Chair, to inform them that the Vermont School Boards Association has selected Mike Deweese as our Act 46 coordinator.
- Andy Julow, Kristin Bowser, Louse Koss and I met with representatives from VSA, VSBA, VSBIT and the VT AoE on August 6th in Montpelier. The meeting provided us with general information regarding forming our Study Committee.
- Executive Committee members met to approve my professional goals for the 2015 – 2016 school year. (See, *Annual Goals*, attached.)

Administrative Retreat:

- All five principals, along with Beth Hemingway, Director of Student Support, Elaine Pentaleri, Director Curriculum and Assessment, Megan Grube and Deb Lesure from the Vermont Agency of Education and Bonnie Poe, from SWIFT group and I, met on August 11 to begin documenting our Multi-Tiered System of Supports, and to outline an actionable plan for moving all five schools to a fully operational MTSS during this school year. This work is ongoing and will be part of the focus during our participation in the Field Pilot Project for the Educational Quality Review. (See links to Educational Quality Standards and The EQS Field Review.)

Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction

The year is off to a good start as a result of our new teacher orientation day and two GISU in-service days. In keeping with our SWIFT goals, all work and learning this year revolves around these three high-impact learning strategies (John Hattie):

-Relationships

-Feedback

-High Expectations

We are offering our staff and faculty strong professional learning opportunities. Highly respected experts in the field such as Elizabeth Moore, Kristin Gehsmann, Claudine Bedell, and Judi Maynard are working with us at trainings, in our schools, and in our classrooms, advancing state of the art approaches to instruction. We are providing training and support in fundamental instructional approaches such as Words Their Way, Calkins Units of Study, Personalized Learning (as required by Act 77), MTSS, and STEM. Goals for this year include:

- *formalizing and clarifying curriculum frameworks across subjects and grades*
- *building capacity and sustainability with data systems, reporting, data reflection/analysis*
- *compliance with act 77*
- *pedagogical approaches that support MTSS*
- *full implementation of instruction aligned to CCSS and NGSS*

We celebrate the revisions to our assessment calendar, which is the result of much collaborative work and attention last year. We have made solid progress in universalizing assessments and instructional expectations across the Supervisory Union, particularly in literacy and math K-5. This universal assessment calendar will assist us in developing pacing guides and formalizing our Supervisory Union curriculum this year, and will inform our intentions to create standards based report cards.

ACT 46:

- At the GISU Special Meeting on August 27, 2015, the GISU successfully created an ACT 46 Study Committee. The 16 member committee will meet next on September 22, 2015 at the North Hero School from 6:30 – 8:30.
- Andy Julow, Chair of the ACT 46 Committee, will be creating a web site for all GISU ACT 46 information to be shared on. There will be a link to the page from the GISU web site.
- Updated FY2017 Cost Containment / Allowable Growth Percentage, as laid out in ACT 46 have been updated. Current caps by district are:
 - Alburgh 1.66%
 - Grand Isle 1.27%
 - Isle La Motte 1.53%
 - North Hero 1.76%
 - South Hero 2.02%

Special Education:

- The Service Plan for FY 17 needs to be completed and submitted to the Agency of Education no later than October 15, 2015. The Director of Student Support Services will be working with building administrators, staff and business manager to complete this. Centralization will occur on July 1, 2016. Special Educators and Speech and Language Pathologist met and have generated questions that will be shared. This will be discussed more during the Grand Isle Supervisory Union Board meeting in September.
- Special Educators and Speech and Language Pathologists worked together during in-service on Monday, August 24th working on exploring more effective and efficient ways of delivering Tier III intervention services that meet the needs of ALL students. Behavioral Interventionists were trained in Handle with Care in accordance with Rule 4500.
- Beth Hemingway met with all professional level special education faculty and staff during the August in-service to discuss the changes necessitated by ACT 156.
- Changes based on ACT 156 will need to be reflected in the 2016 Special Education Service Plan.
- Failure to comply with ACT 156 will result in a 5 cent surcharge on the tax-rate.
- Hiring for all special education positions have been filled in each school district.
- PRE-K: We have been working with contracted child care / preschool providers regarding fingerprinting of staff and volunteers as all staff working with our students must have their criminal background checks & prints on file at the Central Office (new state requirement for 2015).

GISU Student High School Enrollment (Middle, NH & ILM): As of 8/28/15

HS	MVU	BFA	CHS/CMS	EHS	SBHS/ FTMS	BHS	CVU	MHS	NCCS- NY	In-state Private	Out of state Private
Totals	32	43	55	45	69	1	2	1	22	18	4
Alburgh	29	40	4	2	2				16	2	
ILM	3	2		4	5				6	1	
NH		1	10	8	20						
GI			32	19	24			1		9	4
SH			9	12	18	1	2			6	

Fiscal Monitoring Update:

- We were notified by the AoE that effective August 10, 2015, all federal funds will be restored to the GISU on a receipts only basis however, and there are many corrective actions still necessary to be compliant with the audit results. These include by are not limited to, the updating and adoption of all policies followed by mandatory board training and ongoing oversight to ensure that the district is adhering to policies. There will additional documentation required for all reimbursements and the GISU has new procedures and paper work for all financial transactions. (see *AoE Letter*, attached).
- Linda and Ellen got the first payroll off without a hitch, despite some drama with ADS and server updates. Kudos to them!
- Our auditors, who were coming on August 31st are not coming until October 19th. This may seem like bad news however, it is actually very good news for an office that just went through corrective actions and needs more time to make accounting corrections for fiscal year 2015.
- We will still have our audited FY 15 fund balances in time for budgeting. Statistical reports are nearly finished for all the districts and the supervisory union office. If any of you don't know what STAT reports are, they are the reporting of all of our financial affairs, for FY 15, submitted in a format using an ACCESS database that was developed by the State. It's an interesting process. As always, please feel free to call or email Lynne Carpenter with any questions.
- The next GISU Policy meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2015, 1:00 – 4:00 PM at the Curriculum Office at the North Hero Community Hall.

Legislation: Links to summaries +/- reports-

Vermont Education Quality Standards-

http://education.vermont.gov/documents/EDU-FinalEQS_AsAdopted.pdf

Vermont Educational Quality Standards, Quality Review Field Pilot-

<http://education.vermont.gov/education-quality-review>

Attachments:

- *AoE Letter Regarding Corrective Actions*
- *Annual Goals*
- *September is National Preparedness Month: Crisis Planning Flyer*