

Grand Isle Supervisory Union
Meeting Wednesday, September 9, 2015
At North Hero School

Present: Barbara Burrington, Elaine Pentaleri, Andy Julow, John Goodrich, Don Bartlett, Carol Miller, Teri Geney, Lynne Carpenter, Beth Hemingway, Skip Prairie, Dave Davis Judith Wimble

Guests: Sheriff Ray Allen, Grand Isle County State's Attorney Doug Disabito

Meeting called to order by Andy Julow at 7:02 p.m.

Adjustment of Agenda: Lynne Carpenter asked if we could include paperwork that needs to be signed by the Board Chair in order to require two signatures on GISU payroll and accounts payable checks

Approval of Minutes of June 10, 2015 and August 27, 2015: Motion by Dave Davis to approve minutes. Second by Judith Wimble. All in favor.

Comments & Questions From the Public Regarding Items Not on the Agenda: None

SBAC Presentation by Elaine Pentaleri: Elaine provided board members with two handouts: Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction Monthly Report for September 2015 and also Spring 2015 SBAC Results which compared the results of Grand Isle County to those of the state. Elaine summarized the goals for this year which are formalizing & clarifying curriculum framework across subjects and grades; building capacity and sustainability with data systems, reporting, data reflection/analysis; compliance with Act 77; pedagogical approaches that support MTSS; and full implementation of instruction aligned to Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards. Elaine said that all work and learning this year revolves around relationships, feedback and high expectations. The second handout, Spring 2015 SBAC Results, shows the percentage that GISU is meeting or exceeding the standard. In most cases in English Language Arts and Math, we are meeting or exceeding the state percentage with the exception of grades 6 & 8 in both English Language Arts and Math. On the handout that shows the results by school within GISU, there was a glitch with the scoring and North Hero's scores were not recorded. Elaine said this was a trial year for testing. The window for testing is March – May, and we will try to take tests later in the school year. All the information from the testing is online so parents can see it. There is nothing that goes home to parents from the schools. Question was asked about how students are motivated to do well? All forms of incentives should be offered for all students, although some students do not seem to need incentives to do well.

Updated Truancy Protocol (Beth Hemingway): In the past, Beth would attend TIP (Truancy Intervention Project) meetings in Franklin County. This group was not meeting our needs as a Supervisory Union. A group was formed in Grand Isle County that consists of Beth Hemingway, Sheriff Ray Allen, GI State's Attorney Doug Disabito, Katie Mayer and Erik Bushey to better serve our county regarding truancy issues. A new protocol is being worked on, and a handout of this was given. It highlights what will happen at each level of absences: at least 5 days missed, 6-10 days missed, 11-15 days missed and 18+ days missed. When a student has

missed 6-10 days, the Grand Isle Sheriff will get involved. He is the truancy officer for each district. When a student has missed 11-15 days, a criminal charge can be filed against the parent, with a fine of up to \$1000.00. There is no jail time. Doug files the charge in court. When a student has missed 18 or more days (which is roughly 10% of the school year), DCF will be notified, an affidavit will be written by GISU and a petition will be filed with family court by State's Attorney which he can accept or not. Schools need to use their discretion about absences (i.e. vacations, medical reasons). A letter will still go to parents, but Admin can include a note clarifying they understand the absences. Beth wanted to point out there are other ongoing issues with students that need to be addressed such as always arriving late to school and missing breakfast or morning meetings in classroom, or students leaving early for a variety of reasons. There were no objections regarding the protocol as presented by Beth Hemingway, and it was approved to begin using.

Update on Act 156 (Beth Hemingway): Special Education and SLP staff met during the in-service. Beth asked them to generate questions and concerns regarding becoming centralized. Questions arose such as who is the bargaining unit? Will people keep their seniority? Will they keep their accumulated sick time? All these questions and concerns will be negotiated. Behavioral Interventionists will not be included in the centralization and will remain at the local level. Beth advised that this should be a fairly simple process. Question was asked about what is the advantage? Beth answered there is a level of flexibility, cost savings, we can share skills across the district (i.e. testing, evaluating) and we could use our skilled teachers instead of hiring outside agencies for testing & evaluating.

Policy Committee Update: Barbara Burrington thanked all board members that were involved in discussions regarding policies during the day. Barbara made a set of new policies for each school. John Goodrich thanked Kris Bowser, Louise Koss and Carol Miller for all their hard work on the new policies. Teri Geney made a motion to adopt the mandatory policies. Second by Dave Davis. All in favor, with one abstention.

Act 46 Update: Barbara advised that the committee is formed and there is a link on the GISU webpage. The committee's next meeting will be on September 22, 2015 at North Hero School at 6:30 p.m. Barbara has started to write the grant. There was a brief discussion regarding the preferred structures which are PreK-6 district tuitioning out 7-12 grades and PreK-8 district tuitioning out 9-12 grades. It was noted that our district must study one of the preferred structures, but we can also investigate other options. At the meeting on September 22nd, Mike Deweese will be there and will discuss what the members want. This meeting is very important. Please come ready to share your vision or wishes for our district.

Review of Board Structure: Barbara provided a handout that outlined the duties of a Supervisory Union board. She also provided a handout regarding Washington West SU's rules of organization. It is believed that structurally we could be more efficient. For example, just because you are on a committee in March, it does not mean that you are or can be available for future committee meetings. Perhaps committees could be formed based on who is available to attend. Executive Committee could meet monthly and bring the information from those meaningful conversations back to their individual boards.

Lynne Carpenter mentioned that as part of our Corrective Action Plan, and for stronger internal controls, we will be required to have two signatures on all GISU central office paychecks and

accounts payable checks. She has the paperwork from the bank to include the second signature as either Lynne Carpenter or Barbara Burrington. Linda Norris will remain as the first signer. Don Bartlett made a motion to have Andy Julow as GISU Chair sign the paperwork. Second by John Goodrich. All in favor. Andy will return paperwork to Lynne after he signs it with a Notary Public present.

Set Date, Time & Location for Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at North Hero School at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Teri Geney to adjourn. Second by John Goodrich. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.