

GRAND ISLE SCHOOL BOARD
Meeting Monday, September 28, 2015
At Grand Isle School

Board Members in attendance:

Gary Marckres, Chair
Don Bartlett
Teri Geney
Carol Miller
Mike Talbot

Eric Arnzen, Principal

Call Meeting to Order

Gary Marckres called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

Adjustment of Agenda

Gary Marckres wanted to discuss winter sports scheduling with Mr. Arnzen.

Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2015

Carol Miller moved to approve the minutes for September 14. Approved 3-0, one abstention.

Members of the Public – For Items Not on the Agenda

None

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Food Service

Mr. Arnzen had the opportunity to speak to the food service director of the Abbey Group. He was informed that the menu is on a 6 week rotation and there should not be repeats in menu choices. They are willing to work with the school to alter the menu a bit, but it is at extra cost. The possibility of a free breakfast program was also discussed, but not recommended at this time. Mr. Arnzen will ask the food service advisory board to review the menu.

Teaching & Learning

- On Friday, teachers in grades K-5 attended a half day workshop led by Beth Moore. They were working with new units/curriculum that would best meet state standards. Another workshop is planned where Beth Moore will unpack these resources, talk about implementation on a classroom level, and hold mock courses.
- Mr. Arnzen and Annie Brabazon attended a workshop on data and looked at SBAC results. The Agency of Ed will be advising schools how best to share SBAC results in a meaningful way.

Facility Updates

- Two sinkholes were discovered on the playground due to rotten septic tank covers. These have been repaired.
- Teri Geney reminded the board that they had discussed constructing a drainage pipe from the parking lot to the road. Mr. Arnzen said that this would depend on how much this project would cost, and where the funding would come from. Mike Talbot estimated that pipe and other materials would cost around \$300. Teri will follow up with the community member who had offered to help with excavation for this project.

General Information

- A school-wide bus training will be held in the following week to teach students expectations and guidelines.
- Recently, older students created lesson plans for the elementary school students in order to give them an idea of expectations in certain areas. Mr. Arnzen hoped that this would further the relationships between middle school and elementary school students.
- Gary Marckres followed up with Mr. Arnzen about extending after-school program hours to 7:00pm.

BOARD DISCUSSION & ACTION

After School Program Discussion

Gary Marckres shared that the Superintendent said that some resources can be used for after school programming which benefits all students from Grand Isle School, if a memorandum of understanding was reached. Gary Marckres said that the board would need a proposal from Mr. Arnzen and Julie Elkins. Julie Elkins was concerned that there were students that wanted to come to the program that couldn't afford it, but don't qualify for government aid. Teri Geney expressed her opinion that school funding shouldn't be used for after school care if it is not meeting specific educational needs, particularly as this particular program is not run by the school. She suggested that difficult precedents could be set if the Board provides funding for privately run programs. The Board agreed that further discussion would be needed after reviewing a detailed proposal and memorandum of understanding.

Act 46 Study Committee Update

Gary shared that Barbara Burrington said that the Study Committee is focused on studying the "preferred structure" (all 5 island towns forming a single union district). The study committee hopes to hold public forums in each town before Thanksgiving to gather information. Carol Miller asked that Board members share their thoughts on "what information is needed" in order for the study to be fruitful.

Annex Update

RFD to get surveying done will be done by the end of October. Gary Marckres was concerned that a transfer of title might keep the Learning Adventure from being grandfathered under certain acts and statutes. He will research this question.

GISU Policy Warning

Gary Marckres said that they cannot adopt GISU policies until they are officially voted on by the GISU Board. Teri Geney shared her notes on how the new mandated policies compare with the current Grand Isle School policies. The Board agreed that if there are any discrepancies, they will adopt the new mandated format and wording. This vote will need to be warned 10 days prior to the next meeting. Gary will ask Ellen Norris to do so.

FY15 Final Financial Update

Postponed to a future meeting due to Lynne Carpenter's illness. The final financial status will be delivered at the meeting after the audit at the end of October.

Approval of Bills for Payment

Don Bartlett moved to approve bills in the amount of \$20,458.73. Approved 5-0.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE/SHARING

- Rob Reardon, principal of Essex High School, has answered the board's request for information and would like to come to the October 12 board meeting.

- Teri Geney shared that in talking to the middle school teachers, it was mentioned that they missed being able to visit high school teachers and discussing how their curriculum and teaching match up.
- She also asked the board how they felt about putting out another newsletter as an update, which received a positive response.
- Mr. Arnzen brought forward a contract for a second-shift custodian.
- Gary Marckres thanked Mike Talbot for the work he did in the gym.

AGENDA BUILDING

GISU Policy Adoption

Rob Reardon Visit

Drainage Update

After School Program Proposal/Memorandum of Understanding

ACT 46 Study Committee Update

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Carol Miller made a motion to move into executive session at 7:56pm. Approved 5-0.

Gary Marckres made a motion to end the executive session at 8:01pm. Approved 5-0.

ADJOURN

Gary Marckres made a motion to adjourn at 8:02pm. Approved 5-0.

MINUTES CERTIFICATION:

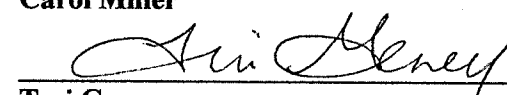
**Proposed Minutes respectfully submitted by Kelli Geney. Approved by the Board of Directors on:
October 12, 2015**



Gary Marckres, Chair



Carol Miller



Teri Geney



Don Bartlett



Mike Talbot