

GRAND ISLE SCHOOL BOARD
Meeting Monday, October 16, 2017
At Grand Isle School

Present:

Gary Marckres, Chair
Carol Miller
Don Bartlett
Mike Talbot
Nathan Robinson

Eric Arnzen, Principal
Don Van Nostrand, Superintendent
Rob Gess, Business Manager

Members of the Public:

Lisa Stafford
Mary Hill
Heather Larose
Lauren Bartlett
Glen Stegner
John and Liz Gavin
Apyl Cunningham
Rob Straight
James More
Dorothy Sacca

Meeting Brought to Order: Carol Miller brought the meeting to order @ 6:32 p.m.

Adjustment of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes of August 14, 2017. Carol Miller moved to approve the minutes of August 14, 2017. Approved 5-0.

Approval of Minutes of September 11, 2017.

Mike Talbot moved to approve the Minutes of September 11, 2017. Approved 5-0.

Gary Marckres moved to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on October 12, 2017. Approved 5-0.

Superintendent's Report.

Every year, the College of Education and Social Services at the University of Vermont, together with Vermont supervisory unions and school districts, the Vermont Agency of Education, and the Vermont NEA, join to honor the accomplishments of our state's outstanding educators.

The 37th Annual UVM Outstanding Teachers Day took place on Thursday, October 12, 2017, at the Dudley H. Davis Center. It was an exciting event where the 2017 Outstanding Teachers from every school district in Vermont were honored. Kacie Aubin from North Hero and Nancy Gardner from Isle LaMotte were honored this year.

There is an in-service on October 19 at Grand Isle School.

Principal's Report.

Enrollment Report.

0—18

1—14

2—21

3—26

4—15

5—15

6—21

7—25

8—22

Following the assessment calendar, the BOY assessment window closed September 22, 2017. As mentioned, GIS organized an assessment team comprising of Reading Specialist, Colleen O'Connor, Special Educator, Lauren Landrigan and three classroom teachers, Molly Terrien, Kate Merola and Gretchen Farfaglia. The work continues in trying to work through some VCAT glitches and as a result, not all the data reporting is available. The intervention data cycle one began Monday, October 2nd. We are approaching a progress-monitoring checkpoint and have established a protocol where Mr. Arnzen and the two specialists meet with each teacher, review goals, data work samples, and discuss the next steps.

Teaching and Learning.

The All Learners Project (ALP) is a group of teachers, coaches, administrators and a person or two from higher education, who are dedicated to the proposition that all students can learn math. While we acknowledge the importance of cultivating a growth mindset to support students, we also feel that there is more pedagogical work to be done. We believe there is specialized instruction that makes math learning more available for children who have tended to be less successful with math. Included in our approach is a deep understanding of relevant math content, a consistent, informed use of formative assessment (such as CRAs and/or Formative Probes), the use of both inclusion and differentiation approaches (often using Math Menu or Math Workshop), and an emphasis on understanding student thinking (rather than making students understand teacher thinking) as the basis for learning. Eric, Molly, Tracy, Dorothy and Eric.

Coaches Conference. Eric, Erin and Colleen – A 2-day institute (November 6 and 7) designed for coaches, teachers, teams and administrators as an intensive learning experience getting you ready to support the use of video in a variety of forms of professional development. This includes Jim's book: Focus on Teaching – Using Video to Improve Professional Learning.

Building and Grounds.

Fire inspection took place on October 16, 2017. All issues previously cited have been complied with as directed. The boiler is also due for an internal inspection which is scheduled to occur this coming December. Provide a copy of the findings from this report when it is completed. No other violations were noted at the time of inspection.

Auto lights have been installed in the bathrooms.

We are awaiting quotes for led lights and air conditioning.

We have hired a night custodian. Dave Ballard will begin work on October 17th. Mike Talbot moved to approve David Ballard's contract. Approved 5-0.

Board Discussion & Action.

Rob Gess, Business Manager. Budget to actuals were discussed. We identified some payroll coding issues, which will be corrected prior to the next board meeting.

There are no significant expense exposures at this time.

We are waiting for revenues from the state. Grant money should be coming in soon.

We have begun the budget process for FY19.

Gary Marckres thanked Mr. Van Nostrand for keeping the board up to date on the restructuring of the District Office.

Review Policy Code C3. Public Participation at Board Meetings.

The policy will remain as written.

Review of Policy Code D10. Public complaints about Personnel.

The policy will remain as written.

Grades 6-8 Schedule changes.

This was the topic of the Special Meeting held on October 12. Mr. Marckres reminded everyone that during the discussion, names of students or other persons should not be identified. Discussion followed on the 7th grade split (7A/7B). The board authorized Mr. Arnzen to hire a 1.0 FTE teacher.

Appoint Policy Committee Member.

Mr. Van Nostrand presented the finance policy at the SU board Meeting. The board decided to start a policy committee, which would include an administrator. Nathan Robinson volunteered. Gary Marckres moved that Nathan Robinson represent the GISB on the Policy Committee. Approved 4-0.

Federal Grants Sub-Grant Agreement.

The supervisory union is required to enter into sub-grant agreements between each school district in order to receive and transfer federal funds and some state funds. The agreement allows the flow of dollars from federal and state monies that are received by GISU to be transferred, or "sub-granted," to a member school.

Nathan Robinson moved to have Gary Marckres, Board Chair, sign the Federal Grants Sub-Grant Agreement. Approved 4-0

Approval of Sullivan, Powers & Co. Scope of Audit Services.

Nathan Robinson moved Gary Marckres to sign the Scope of Audit Services. Approved 5-0.

Approve Abbey Group Contract.

The Abbey Group Contract was approved as previously discussed.

Approval of Bills for Payment.

Gary Marckres moved approve bills for payment in the amount of \$114,663.59 Approved 5-0.

Agenda Building:

Review outcome of Grades 6-8 change.

Budget draft update

Winter Sports Schedule.

Executive Session.

Carol Miller moved to enter into Executive Session @ 8:24 p.m. Approved 5-0. No action was taken. Don Bartlett moved to adjourn from Executive Session at 9:20.

Minutes Certification:

Proposed Minutes respectfully submitted by Pamela Leonard. Approved by the Board of Directors on: November 13, 2017.




Gary Marckres, Chair

Carol Miller



Don Bartlett



Mike Talbot



Nathan Robinson