

Grand Isle Supervisory Union  
**CIUUSD Carousel Meeting**  
School Board Special Meeting  
Tuesday, November 13, 2018

**Minutes**

Board Present: Jane Zera , Mason Maltais , Gary Marckres , Don Bartlett

Administration Present: Robert Gess, Michael Clark, Joseph Resteghini, Lauren Thomas

Community Present: Jennifer Gariety, Joyce Tuck, Bart Wilcox, Tim Maxham, Corinn Julow, Tracy Pearson, Michael Inners, Bridget Brisson

**Call to Order**

1. Meeting called to Order by Gary Marckres at 6:34 p.m.
2. Adjust the Agenda – propose to add goals discussion at beginning of board business and add correspondence and sharing prior to board business.
3. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard- no one raised hands
4. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approve the minutes from 10/09/2018 – Mason motioned, Don seconded, Jane requested that adjust minutes to include Tracy Pearson to be included as a citizen in attendance. Consent agenda approved. Vote 3-0

**Correspondence –**

Rob Gess received email from Bart Wilcox over the weekend. Bart has submitted an editorial in Islander (published 11/13- read aloud by Michael Clark).

Second correspondence sent via email to Michael Clark today from Kimberly Cohen. Concerns brought up at last meeting to be addressed: \$150,000 shared, where is \$100,000 coming from? More information for students. \$150,000 grant for CIUUSD, some money already spent. Verify grant amount please. Continue to have conversations about GISU office- utilizing space amongst open area in schools. Funding and locating conversation at GISU level. This body does not control Grand Isle school budget for this year. Addressing overall concern, it is a continuing agenda item.

**Superintendent's report –**

Michael Clark handed out copies of his Superintendent's Report to all members and community present and presented. He suggested reviewing goals originally discussed by Act 46 committee and make sure goals are still valuable and current. Michael Clark read report on goals proposed to Agency of Education. It is helpful to look back at goals to connect back to and reflect on as we move forward. Discussion took place about making sure administrators have seen and discussed the goals established by the Act 46 committee. Ask CIUUSD and GISU administrators what their idea of equity means to them as an exercise. This will help administrative team and board to collaborate well together. This will help direct cultural change to better the experience and outcomes for our students. We recognize that cultural change is difficult, and we need to collaborate well to help offset the changes.

## **Board Business.**

5. First Draft of Budget – Michael Clark discussed the number of tuition students; many are verified and many are unverified. Rob Gess shared same budget process as last year. The budget presented is a full-loaded budget, there have been no staffing level changes reflected in the presented budget. Approximately seventy-five percent of budget is salaries, benefits, and tuition. Tuition rates are increased, and separate line has been broken out for 7-8 grade students. Break out HRAs and health premiums in line items. Direction from VEHI that health rates have a rate increase of 11.8%. Factor into preliminary budget that negotiations will start later this year that will have to be considered when budgeting. Discussion of number of students to enroll and graduating causing fluctuation in tuition budget differences between last year's budget and upcoming year. Director of Students Support Services working with adjusting service plan with AOE and numbers will change. Negotiating contract for transportation to be completed this year as well. Surveying and public input for transportation needs to be considered. Individual boards, like Isle La Motte, should have discussions about transportation needs of community. Staffing levels and sharing of specialty faculty should be considered when budgeting. Administrator's responsibility to suggest and present efficiencies for staffing to support needs of students. Computer equipment budgeted some of the equipment needs to be updated. Much of the equipment is eight to ten years old and Director of Technology is working on a technology refresh program. Reached out to leasing firms to refresh technology. Looking to come up with a three- and five-year refresh program to keep technology updated in the schools to be efficient and cost-effective.
  
6. Space Update – Michael Clark shared the two tracks he has researched for space options. One track is to refine original proposal. The second track is Michael Clark has reached out to investigate a modular office space. This is in the early stages of research and should have more to share at GISU meeting. GISU board wants to focus on space in Grand Isle School. Recognize that \$250,000 from Black River proposal is significantly higher than what was considered. It will continue to be a discussion on both agendas. The price is greater than thought and alternative financing should be considered if that is the best option. A portion of the transition grant would benefit CIUUSD and benefit GISU. There are other things that can be done to benefit students. Looking for feedback and direction since current central office space is inefficient. Question of what is acceptable from a support staff office's perspective? Michael Clark shared exploring other options would be important. There are a certain amount of offices that need to be confidential spaces. We need to meet the requirements for people to complete their work. Interested in using some and not all the transition grant money for office spaces.
  
7. Values and Beliefs Update - Michael Clark shared that he went to the Isle La Motte haunted library to interview community members on values and beliefs. Continual and ongoing work in interviewing community members.
  
8. Policy Review based on VSBA information – Michael shared that Gary Marckres has signed off as a member of the board and sent policies to the VSBA. Michael Clark shared that they should be able to come to our next meeting. We are on track to make sure policies are ready to go for CIUUSD. Gary Marckres suggested that administration investigate independent firms/auditors to assist.
  
9. Re-adjusting the regular meeting time – Michael Clark shared that regular meeting time may be adjusted by making a motion to pass a resolution to move CIUUSD meeting from fourth meeting of month to second Tuesday. Mason Maltais made motion, to approve a resolution to move the regular CIUUSD meeting time to the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Gary Marckres seconded, vote 4-0 to adjust meeting time.

10. Other - none

**Closure**

11. Setting the next agenda – second draft of budget to include more tuition information, space update with different options, may be bringing policy review (dependent on VSBA), recommendations for transition grant utilization, administrator collaborative approach to resourcing.

12. Adjourn – Mason Maltais made the motion to adjourn, Jane Zera seconded, all in favor. Adjourned at 7:55 pm.