

**Grand Isle Supervisory Union**  
**CIUUSD Special Meeting**  
Tuesday, January 7

**Minutes**

**Board Present:** Michael Inners, Nathan Robsinson, Chet Bromley, Mason Maltais, Gary Marckres (via phone)

**Administration Present:** Michael Clark, Lauren Thomas, Amanda Ellison

**Public Present:**

**Call to Order**

1. Call to Order - Gary Marckres called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. Gary Marckres chairing the meeting to Vice Chair, Mason Maltais.
2. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard - none
3. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approve the minutes from 12/17/2019 - Chet Bromley motions to approve the minutes as presented, Nathan Robinson second. Roll call vote - Gary Marckres - yes, Chet Bromley - yes, Mason Maltais - yes, Nathan Robinson - yes, Michael Inners - yes; motion passes.
4. Reports
  - a. Superintendent's - Michael Clark shared that Rob Gess is out and he has been working with the budget.
  - b. Principal's - Amanda Ellison shared that they had a great week going into the holidays. Students are tracking well with remembering their PBiS initiatives. Ski trips will start this Friday. Students are very excited. Lauren Thomas shared that they are starting the school choice info going out to the 6th graders and working with receiving schools to have shadow days and have the schools come to the school to present. In the midst of basketball season. Ski program is also starting - there will be a bus for the four trips, splitting the cost with the PTA. Girls on the Run Application has been submitted and approved - will kick off in the spring.

**Board Business.**

5. Approval of bills for payment - Mason Maltais shared the total warrant of \$521,804.81. Michael Inners moves to approve, Chet Bromley second. Roll call vote - Gary Marckres - yes, Chet Bromley - yes, Mason Maltais - yes, Nathan Robinson - yes, Michael Inners - yes; motion passes.
6. Third draft of Budget - Michael Clark shared the printed budget with a 4.45% increase. The challenge is that information has been received on 12/20 (after the last meeting). The AOE shared the equalized pupil numbers and there are 408 equalized pupils and there are missing students. We have identified the missing students and sent the information to the AOE. The number is based on a two year rolling average. This and the CLA rate was received and there are some significant changes. These changes raise taxes. With this information, if there was nothing done, there would be an increase of 17.5 cents for one of the towns. The team has spent time to identify reductions that would have minimal impact to students. Some of the potential reductions were shared. Moved funding for the North Hero kitchen renovations to the King Trust. Reduced the assumed funding of the HRA from 100% to 75% based on conservative projects of trends. Reviewed technology- grant funding has been used this year and there was a reduction made to the budget based on grant usage. With more efficient scheduling, looking to reduce the budget for after school programming. Brought substitute line more in line with what was spent

in 2019. Reduced the tuition cushion within the budget as well. There are other potential reductions after what is listed, but it has impacts that are in line with impacts that the community has expressed disinterest in last year. This budget brings a less than 2% increase and maintains what the community has expressed as important. Gary Marckres shared that he thinks this is great work. CLA is having a large impact on the tax rate. Mason Maltais agrees, but expressed one item of reduction that he feels should be added back in- the library improvements for North Hero of \$2250. Gary Marckres suggests to take this out of the health care utilization and move it back into the library. That would leave the final budget as-is. Michael Inners asked about increase of 30% in non-licensed special education staff. Michael Clark clarified that these are paraeducators that are required by IEPs and reflected in the service plan. Mason Maltais and Nathan Robinson clarified that IEP requirements and health care costs are out of the board's control. An error was found in the budget file and provided information that there needed to be more reductions in the budget. Michael Inners suggests at a minimum, the budget needs to be below the excess spending threshold. Michael Clark proposes that the team get back together to cut more out of the budget. Board suggests funding the HRA at 60% utilization. Gary Marckres suggests gathering more data to justify this funding. Discussion took place regarding the changes in health care and the financial liability. Board suggests splitting the difference and funding at 65%. The deadline for the warning is January 24. There will be a special meeting at the Grand Isle Cafeteria at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 14.

7. Annual Warning - postponed to the next meeting.

8. Long term sub hiring - Lauren Thomas will be taking Family Medical Leave around April 25 and we will need to hire a long term sub for the principal position. There will be a hiring process just like all other positions and looking for a board member interested in being on the committee.

9. Other - Mason Maltais has not put in a petition for the North Hero representative, but is eligible for a write-in.

#### **Closure**

10. Setting the next agenda - Tuesday, January 14 meeting - Budget and potential warning

11. Adjourn - Nathan Robinson motions to adjourn, Michael Inners second. Roll call vote - Gary Marckres - yes, Chet Bromley - yes, Mason Maltais - yes, Nathan Robinson - yes, Michael Inners - yes; motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 7:45 pm.