

GRAND ISLE SCHOOL BOARD
Meeting Monday, January 8, 2018
At Grand Isle School

Present:

Gary Marckres, Chair
Mike Talbot
Don Bartlett

Don Van Nostrand, Superintendent
Rob Gess, Business Manager

Dorothy Sacca
Annie Brabazon

Members of the Public:
Patty Lavigne (The Islander)

Meeting Brought to Order: Gary Marckres brought the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

Adjustment of Agenda:

Set the FY 18-19 tuition rate for Grand Isle.

Review quote for LED lighting.

Increase in wages for custodian based on added responsibility. This will be discussed in Executive Session.

Approval of Minutes of December 11, 2017. Don Bartlett moved to approve the minutes of December 11, 2017.
Approved 3-0.

Members of the Public – For Items not on the Agenda.

Superintendent's Report.

Mr. Van Nostrand expressed his thanks to the faculty and staff for keeping things going in the absence of a principal. Beth Hemingway, Megan Grube and Don Van Nostrand have been supporting the school until the interim principal is hired.

Grand Isle School received approval for the emergency reimbursement for the boiler for 30% of the total amount. The boiler has been inspected.

GISU has a new website, which is easier to navigate. The Agenda and Minutes will be posted on the GISU website.

Board Discussion & Action.

The board echoed its thanks to the faculty and staff and supervisory union for keeping the school going in the absence of a principal.

Update on Maintenance Projects.

The lighting in the music room and cafeteria have been separated and replaced with individual circuits and switches. It is a big improvement and replaced with LED lighting. It is estimated that the savings is well over \$5,000.

The Boiler has been inspected.

A transformer blew on January 5th, which left the school without power to parts of the building. There was no cost to the school.

Over the break, Mike Ashline painted the cafeteria. There were some challenges with the dishwasher. Mr. Van Nostrand has not checked with Mike for an update.

The board received a quote from DC Energy to continue to the LED retrofit. The Kindergarten hall has 6 fixtures, the map room has 8 the lobby has 12 the main hall has 30 fixtures and the upstairs hall has 10 fixtures for 66 fixtures, including lamp disposal. \$6,209. There is a state rebate of \$1,650 and an additional 20% if we fill out an online application instead of mailing it in. As long as this is done by June 30, 2018, we can take advantage of the savings. The fixtures have a warranty of 5 years. These are 20-year LED bulbs. The savings is \$1650 each year. We are slightly over budget in maintenance line item because of the boiler. We will be right on budget with the grant of 30%. The total cost of the project is \$4229.00. The ballasts that are failing on a regular basis with a cost of about \$60 to replace each one. We could retrofit each fixture for about \$80. Mike Talbot moved to approve \$4229.00 proposal from DC Energy. Approved 3-0.

Outcome of 6-8 Change.

January 8th was the first day of the 7th grade split and Mondays and Fridays.

Mrs. Sacca stated that the kids seemed to go with the flow. Ms. Gove said the first day went well.

The students are using chrome books until the math program is ready for use. This should take 1-2 weeks for the final paperwork to be approved.

Mr. Van Nostrand asked the board if they had formally hired Ms. Gove for the Monday and Friday position. The board authorized the .4 FTE, but have not signed a contract. The board will sign the contract at the next board meeting and make it retroactive.

Finalize FY19 Budget.

Mr. Gess brought the board up to date on the FY19 budget.

The board reduced the budget by \$95,000 up to this point. Unfortunately, that has evaporated due to a reduction in revenues. The board has worked very hard year in, year out and has failed to level fund at this point. Mr. Gess stated that supervisory union's budget has not been approved yet. His expectation is that there will not be any incremental dollars added to the assessments you have in your budget. There is the probability that the assessment will actually be lower.

The high school tuitions are covered. Mr. Gess put in 3% as an increase to the tuition rate based on past tuitions.

Discussion of Possible Tuition of Grade 7 Next Year.

Mr. Van Nostrand is researching this matter. If all 7th grade goes, there would be a significant increase. Is the board considering reducing staff accordingly or not? If half go and half do not, then it is just a balancing of the schedule.

Approve Warning.

Gary Marckres would like to get financial analysis before the warning. The Board will hold a Special Meeting on January 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Bills for Payment.

Gary Marckres moved to approve bills in the amount of \$402,350.62. Approved 3-0.

Agenda Building:

Finalize FY19 Budget and approve Warning.
Outcome of Interim Principal search
Finalize .4 teacher

Executive Session:

Mike Talbot made a motion to move into Executive Session @ 7:40 p.m. to discuss disciplinary matter concerning administration. Approved 3-0.

Adjourn:

The Board moved out of Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes Certification:

Proposed Minutes respectfully submitted by Pamela Leonard. Approved by the Board of Directors on: January 15, 2018.

Gary Marckres, Chair

Carol Miller

Don Bartlett

Mike Talbot

Nathan Robinson

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