

# Grand Isle Supervisory Union

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

## Agenda

To view the recording, please [click here](#); to view the recording after executive session, please [click here](#).

**Board Present:** Bentley Vaughan, Michael Inners, Chet Bromley, Tim Maxham, Amy Thompson, Erin Morse

**Admin Present:** Michael Clark, Rob Gess

**Public Present:** Deb Lang, Bob Jones, Richard Monterosso, Karen Browning, Anne Brabazone

### Call to Order

1. Call to Order - Bentley Vaughan called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.
2. Adjust the Agenda - none
3. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard - Deb Langin and husband Bob Jones expressed support of the District Equity policy, Richard Monterosso also expressed that he is here to show support for the equity policy.
4. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approve the minutes from 12/22/2020 - Tim Maxham motioned to approve the minutes as printed, Bentley Vaughan seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
  - b. Resignation of Michele Weaver, Director of Student Support Services - Michael Clark shared the resignation in the packet. At this time, she does not have the appropriate licensure after June 30. She is on a provisional extension at this time, but the agreement with the licensing board was that we would post the position if she did not have licensure in hand by January 15. We do have the position advertised, if there is a board member interested in being on the hiring committee, please let Michael know. There is no action, under Title 16 242, the superintendent accepts the resignation. We appreciate her service and look forward to working with her the remainder of the year.

### Reports

5. Superintendent's Report - Michael Clark shared the annual report that went into the town reports. The weekly community letters are also included in the report. Chet Bromley asked about attendance at community meetings and if the community is expressing concern. Michael Clark indicated that attendance has been light, which is a sign of comfort with routines and the community seems to be in a pretty good place.

Financial Report - Rob Gess shared the budget to actuals provided in the packet. He reviewed processed to ensure spending is remaining reasonable. He also reviewed the challenge of administration of federal grants in relation to COVID spending. Rob reviewed the process of ESSA funding spending processes. eFinance implementation continues, the building of the HR and payroll modules has begun, this is a large lift. Rob reviewed struggles with federal leaves and issuing w2s - there is an update going out tonight from the accounting software (Tyler) to allow completion of printing and distribution. Sullivan and Powers has been provided everything they have requested for the audit. Board asked about discrepancies in spending. Rob and Michael clarified that spending for travel and professional development were budgeted in a non-pandemic time and so there are cost savings associated with availability of services due to COVID safety protocols. Tim Maxham motions that the board has received

and reviewed the budget to actuals for fiscal year 2021 dated 1/20/2021. Bentley Vaughan seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

### **Board Business.**

6. (C29) District Equity Policy - Michael Clark reviewed the district equity policy, this is the first reading of the policy. This is the same policy presented and advocated for at a local level. Bentley Vaughan opened up to comments from the public. Deb Lang asked about the next step in the process. Michael Clark clarified that after a first reading, there is a second reading about a month later (at the regular meeting) and the board votes on it at that time. Karen Browning shared her experience in moving to Vermont and working in equity and diversity. Rich Monterosso shared his experience as a social worker in a special ed department and congratulated the board on development of this policy and advocated for work to be done to help students transition off the Islands. Anne Brabazon shared her excitement for the inclusion of this policy.

7. Director of Student Support Services Hiring Process & Timeline - Michael Clark shared that we will follow the same hiring process. We have advertised the position, we have at least one applicant at this time. Have put out to faculty and staff to solicit volunteers on the hiring advisory committee, have done the same to parents, and board members. Will pull the committee together to review qualities, values, and experiences we are looking for in candidates, then review candidates and create an interview plan. Expect to interview around February break. If there is a candidate the committee unanimously approves, would move forward, if there is not would create a second round of interview/review. Michael would bring before the board as the recommendation, and the board would accept or reject the recommendation.

Again, invite the board to participate in the committee. Michael Inners volunteers to be on the committee.

8. (F22) Electronic Communications Use and Retention - Bentley Vaughan shared this is the first reading of this policy. Michael Clark clarified this is the model policy.

9. (F23) Capitalization of Assets - Michael Clark indicated this is a first reading and required for a clean audit. This is something the GISU already practices.

10. (D20) Curriculum Development & Coordination - Michael Clark shared this is the policy around Act 153 and SU-wide curriculum development. Michael Clark shared that COVID presented the opportunity to develop the SU-wide curriculum further.

11. OSERS Appeal Update - Michael Inners motions to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing legal advice and the evaluation of a public employee, Bentley Vaughan seconds. All in favor, motion passes, board exits executive session at 7:25 p.m.

12. Superintendent Eval and Survey - Board exits executive session at 8:35 p.m. Bentley Vaughan motions to adjust Michael Clark's current contract based on health care and extend the contract to 2024 as discussed. Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

13. Other - none

### **Closure**

14. Setting the next agenda - items to be added include the second reading of policies reviewed tonight

15. Adjourn - Amy Thompson motions to adjourn, Bentley Vaughan seconds, all in favor, meeting adjourns at 8:39 p.m.