

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

School Board Meeting

Thursday, January 27, 2022

Minutes

Board Present: Tim Maxham, Bentley Vaughan, Brad Blachette, Chet Bromley, Whitney Maxham

Admin Present: Michael Clark, Rob Gess, Dave Brisson, Megan Grube, Nick DeVita

Public Present: Heather McLeod

Call to Order

1. Call to Order - Bentley Vaughan called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.
2. Adjust the Agenda - none
3. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard

Letter from GISU teachers (buyout request) - Michael Clark read the letter from Heather McLeod requesting a buyout offer similar to that of the buyout given to CIUUSD teachers. Brad Blanchette reviewed the buyout offer that was given in the CIUUSD - indicating it is financially the same as Heather's request. Discussion took place about the pros and cons of offering a retirement incentive. After discussion, it will be added as an action item on the February agenda.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes from 10/28/2021 & 11/23/2021 - Tim Maxham motioned to approve the minutes as printed from 10/28/2021 & 11/23/2021, Brad Blanchette seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

Reports

5. Financial Report - Rob Gess reviewed the financial summary provided in the packet and billing for assessments. Rob commended new staff member, Ryan Savage on his excellent work. He is exceeding expectations and is ahead of some of the projects timelines. Kristal Gomez has picked up payroll very quickly and has run her first payroll. The Food Service authority was reviewed in related to emergency closings to allow for bagged meals to be distributed during emergency closings and be reimbursed. The Food Service RFP was reviewed as well. Tim Maxham motioned that the board has received and reviewed the budget to actuals dated 1/19/2022, Bentley Vaughan seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

Superintendent's Report - Michael Clark reviewed the confirmed positives (65 cases) since the beginning of 2022 and the return from break. The outbreak caused two buildings - Folsom and Alburgh - to have to close due to student attendance issues related to positives and quarantines. Michael also reviewed the local budgets have been passed and work on flyers and communications are under way. New guidance has been released by the AOE around COVID. Michael reviewed the new guidance and the impacts to the COVID positive responses related to quarantine, testing, and communication. Tim Maxham asked about the weekly community meeting and attendance. Michael Clark reviewed the topics and how that impacts the attendance.

Board Business.

6. Progress toward GISU goals update - Michael Clark, Rob Gess, Dave Brisson, Nick DeVita, and Megan Grube presented their presentation reviewing progress towards the goals set. Each administrator addressed a goal and spoke towards their work on the goal. [SLIDES](#) Bentley Vaughan indicated he is impressed with the progress - it is modern and functioning and can see the investments made paying off. Michael Clark thanked the board for making those investments.
7. Payroll Support Recognition - Michael Clark indicated the business office has been fully staffed for one month now. Michael outlined the timeline since September 5 when the previous person quit with no notice. Michelle Hetling, Megan DeVinny, and Alyssa Dosztan have stepped up and picked up and moved payroll along as well as continuing their own work. Michael wants to recognize them verbally as well as ask the board to support him in paying these folks a bonus for doing this work to support payroll. Michael proposes a \$2,000 bonus for the day-to-day functions of payroll, would like to propose \$1,500 for Megan DeVinny for being the frontline contact for resolving issues, and Alyssa Dosztan \$1,000 for assisting with the Frontline system clean up and maintenance. Tim Maxham motions to

support the Superintendent's recommendation for recognition of the three individuals, Brad Blanchette seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

8. FY21 Financial Management Questionnaire - Rob Gess shared that this is an annual requirement from the AOE and needs a board signature. Tim Maxham motions to authorize Bentley Vaughan to sign on behalf of the board, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

9. SU Buildings and Grounds Position - Michael Clark indicated that South Hero and CIUUSD have expressed interest in this being an SU position. Alburgh is considering it, but it will be a topic for discussion at their next meeting. Michael Savage sent an email indicating he was unable to make it tonight and is asking the board to table. Tim Maxham motions to table to the next meeting, Bentley Vaughan seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

10 COVID guidance update - Michael Clark indicated this was covered in his Superintendent report.

11. February meeting - Michael Clark indicated that there is a GISU meeting at the same time the South Hero Board will host their informational meeting. He asked the board consider having a meeting starting 30 minutes later and still able to end the meeting at a normal time based on the agenda. Tim Maxham motioned to have a special meeting on February 24, 2022 starting at 7 p.m Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

12 Central Office Contracts - Tim Maxham motions to move into executive session to address Central Office contracts and evaluate a public employee, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes. Board enters executive session at 7:55 p.m. Board exits executive session at 8:36 p.m. Tim Maxham motions to support the superintendent's recommendation of central office contracts as outlined in executive session with the modifications discussed, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

13. Superintendent self evaluation - Bentley Vaughan motions to accept the self evaluation of the superintendent and that the board has signed off on it, Tim Maxham seconds. Roll call vote: Bentley Vaughan - yes, Brad Blanchette - yes, Whitney Maxham - yes, Tim Maxham - yes, Chet Bromley - abstain.

14. Other

Closure

15. Setting the next agenda - Teacher buyout request and building and ground position

16. Adjourn - Chet Bromley motions to adjourn, Tim Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 8:41 p.m.