

Grand Isle Supervisory Union
South Hero School District
School Board Regular Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, at 6 p.m.
Location: Folsom Education & Community Center

DRAFT MINUTES

Call to Order

1. Call to order at 6:07 p.m.

Introductions. In attendance:

-Board members: David Cain, Melanie Henderson, Tim Maxham, Bentley Vaughan, Bob Chutter

-Staff: Michael Clark, Rob Gess, Julie Pidgeon

-Audience: Jim Jones (LCATV)

2. Adjustment of Agenda

None.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Consent Agenda (Action)

A. Approve minutes from Jan. 17, 2019.

The minutes for Jan. 17, 2019, were revised to change the word “inform” to “affect” as follows: “S. McKelvie presented a detailed overview of the federal, state and supervisory union regulations and policies that affect the schedule.”

T. Maxham made a motion to approve the minutes for Jan. 17, 2019, as revised. B. Chutter seconded the motion. The minutes of the Jan. 17, 2019, meeting were approved as revised on a voice vote.

5. Reports (Discussion)

A. Financial (R. Gess) (Action). The budget-to-actual report was reviewed. Residency verifications are completed, and they have started to process tuition invoices. R. Gess noted there are more savings than expenditures currently.

The district has submitted the first round of documents for the FY18 audit to Sullivan and Powers. It is in process.

The district is working on RFPs for transportation for all schools and food service for some districts.

B. Chutter asked about the status of the state's double payment in FY17 for Title 1. The amount is about \$160,000. M. Clark said the issue is an accounting deficit and will be resolved through the grant repayment process over time.

The board discussed the implementation process for the state's new accounting system.

T. Maxham made a motion that the board received and reviewed the financial report of Jan. 31, 2019. M. Henderson seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

B. Superintendent's (M. Clark)

M. Clark said the supervisory union continues to work on accuracy in the equalized pupil count. He said the district may not reach the anticipated equalized pupil number, but the GISU is finding that some students on the tuition list are no longer residents, which reduces tuition payment. He thanked GISU employees who have been checking the list from the state with each report to ensure verification. The district is planning a second mailing for residency verification.

The superintendent shared his decision-making process for closing schools because of inclement weather.

D. Cain expressed thanks to the CIUUSD for offering space in Grand Isle School for the Supervisory Union offices. The move would be a cost savings and allow all supervisory union employees to work in one location.

Board Business

6. Approval of Bills for Payment.

The bills in Batch 4227 totaling \$34,996.42 were approved for payment on a voice vote. B. Vaughan made a motion to pay the bills. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

7. Money due Employees from Datapath:

The superintendent reported that Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) provider Datapath has reported some overpayment to employees, which is surprising given it is a reimbursement model. There were numerous reports of problems in the transition from Future Planning to Datapath. There were some double payments using the HRA card. He discussed the payment issues with South Hero employees. Today, all employees were notified that Datapath had processed all claims through Dec. 31, 2018. Employees were encouraged to check their accounts. Employees will be notified on Monday, Feb. 11, if they owe money. M. Clark and Megan DeVinny have spoken with Datapath weekly about the issues. M. Clark emphasized that he thought the situation had been unacceptable. M. Clark said he believed the issues primarily stemmed from the transition from one HRA vendor to another.

M. Henderson said it makes sense to ask employees to review their bills, but she said she would hate for an employee to pay \$250 for mistakes made through this process.

M. Clark said employees may already know about the overpayment situation as the GISU has been trying to inform them when they find out about an issue.

D. Cain asked the superintendent to notify the board at the point it cannot resolve these issues and thinks further effort is not cost-efficient.

8. Town Meeting Preparation

D. Cain reviewed a slide show presentation on the budget, and the board discussed its content. M. Henderson shared her presentation to update the town on the Act 46 decision. The board plans to end with a presentation from students on their educational experience. J. Pidgeon suggested the board include information on the plan for the school library after the town library moves to its new space. The board discussed whether this information would come in the town library presentation. D. Cain suggested the board ask the principal if she plans to talk about that topic. M. Clark said he would be attending the Isle La Motte meeting, and R. Gess would be attending the South Hero meeting as they are held the same day.

9. Principal Contract (Executive Session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. sec. 313)

D. Cain moved the board go into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss a contract. B. Vaughan seconded the motion.

The board came out of executive session at 7:37 p.m. D. Cain moved the board instruct the superintendent to offer Susan McKelvie a principal contract for next year as discussed. B. Chutter seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

Closure

10. Setting the next agenda

-Feb. 20 (Wednesday): This meeting will need to be warned as a special meeting because it varies from the regular schedule. It was noted there can be no adjustment to the agenda for a special meeting.

-March 7: Board reorganization

11. Adjourn

The board adjourned at 7:40 PM on a voice vote. D. Cain made the motion to adjourn. B. Chutter seconded the motion.
