

GRAND ISLE SCHOOL BOARD
Meeting Monday, February 8, 2016
At Grand Isle School

Attendance

Gary Marckres, *Chair*
Teri Geney
Mike Talbot
Carol Miller
Don Bartlett

Eric Arnzen, *Principal*
Beth Hemingway
Dorothy Sacca
Paul Sacca

Call Meeting to Order

Gary Marckres called the meeting to order at 6:31pm

Adjustment of Agenda

Due to illness, budget to actuals and the results of the audit will be postponed until the next meeting. There will also be no superintendent's report.

Approval of Minutes of January 25, 2016

Carol Miller moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 25. Approved 5-0.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

PLP Presentation—Dorothy Sacca & Paul Sacca

Dorothy and Paul Sacca shared the format and details of the personal learning plans that the middle school students have been working on. They wanted the PLPs to be something that students integrate into their whole school day as opposed to just a half an hour twice a week. Annie Brabazon has been helping out with the technological aspect of this. The goals that the students set are aimed toward transferrable skills as opposed to product-oriented goals.

Facilities

Eric Arnzen gave the board a packet of quotes for the facilities:

- Receptacles for the music room (DC Energy)
- Two microwave receptacles for the lunch room (DC Energy)
- Separation of lighting between lunch room and music room (DC Energy)
- Extra receptacles in cafeteria (DC Energy)
- Epoxy floors in several areas, does not include ripping up tile (Vermont Seamless Epoxy Floors)
 - Mike Talbot offered to get another quote from an additional company
- Finish off carpeting in remaining classrooms (Lacey's)

The Board asked Mr. Arnzen to prioritize and make recommendations for facilities improvement projects, based on available funds.

CIP Priorities

There is a focus on having clear and accessible learning goals that guide instruction. The faculty was given an inventory of assessments and chose two or three to implement at a classroom level. These were

used to inform next steps and instructional planning. They are going to take a small team over to Williston Central School and look at their Tier 2 planning and learn from them.

General Information

GIS will be partnering with a Pet Tales (the REAAD program) to have students working with therapy dogs to assist reading. Mike Talbot asked for follow up regarding 5th grade math. The Board discussed the importance of assisting this class to meet their year's Common Core learning goals. Hiring temporary small group tutors was suggested.

BOARD DISCUSSION & ACTION

FY16 Special Education Expenses Update—Beth Hemingway

Three students moved into Grand Isle who are special Ed eligible, and one high school student became eligible. As a result, the FY16 special ed expenses are projected to be over budget in these areas: Special Ed Excess Costs, Special Ed Transportation and Special Ed Professional Educational Services. At this point, it looks like we are \$67,000 over budget at year end for the three line items. After reimbursements (Spec Ed revenue), the net should be roughly \$34,000. Mrs. Hemingway will provide up to date budget to actuals in May, as well as High School enrollment and performance tracking.

ACT 46 Update

There are no definitive updates at this point. South Hero is talking with Franklin West about joining that study committee and leaving the island one. If South Hero leaves, a preferred structure would no longer be viable and the five years of incentives would be lost. However, four years of tax breaks are still possible. Gary Marckres received an official notice from South Hero about this. At the forum at the last meeting, a suggestion was made for non binding questions at town meeting. Mr. Talbot checked and the board will be allowed to poll people both at Grand Isle School and the town office. The next Act 46 Study Committee meetings are on Feb. 16, 6pm in Isle La Motte and on Feb. 23.

Assessment Data Review

Mr. Arnzen and Mrs. Geney put together data tracking each group of students' grades on literary and math assessments from 2013 to present. The data makes a strong case for implementing interventionists not only for the younger grades, but also for grades 3+. In addition, the board was concerned with the "summer slip" that was evident. Mr. Arnzen is working on plans for summer learning opportunities to alleviate this problem. Mrs. Geney thanked Mr. Arnzen for his team's work in supporting student learning. The positive effects are evident in the strong performance of students who join the school community in recent years. The Board looks forward to seeing this data put to use in practical ways.

Approval of Bills for Payment

Gary Marckres moved to approve bills in the amount of \$182,815.07. Approved 5-0.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE/SHARING

Teri Geney shared that Melissa did not have a letter from the board for the town report. Teri created a draft that the board signed. She also got a phone call with a list of concerns that the person wanted to make sure the board was aware of. Teri relayed them to Eric Arnzen and advised the person that the school board comes in if they feel like the citizens are not getting the proper attention from the administration. Gary Marckres shared correspondence relating to additional training for the BIs. Carol and Gary received an invitation from LCA TV offering them an hour in a televised forum (due to them seeking reelection to the school board), but neither of them are able to take the offer up due to scheduling.

AGENDA BUILDING

Budget to Actuals

Audit Report
Superintendent's Report
ACT 46 Update
Teachers' Contract Negotiations Update

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURN

Don Bartlett moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm.

MINUTES CERTIFICATION:

**Proposed Minutes respectfully submitted by Kelli Geney. Approved by the Board of Directors on:
February 22, 2015**

Gary Marckres, Chair

Carol Miller

Teri Geney

Don Bartlett

Mike Talbot