

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

Special School Board Meeting

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Minutes

Board Present: Brad Blanchette, Nathan Robinson, Sylvia Jensen, Michael Savage, Whitney Doremus, Tim Maxham, Bob Chutter, Ryan Latimer, Whitney Maxham

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

Public Present:

Call to Order

1. Call to Order - Michael Clark called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

2. Board Reorganization

- Board Chair - Tim Maxham nominates Brad Blanchette, Bob Chutter seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
- Vice Chair - Bob Chutter nominates Tim Maxham for Vice Chair, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
- Clerk - Tim Maxham nominates Sylvia Jensen, Nathan Robinson seconds, Sylvia Jensen asks to not be nominated, Tim Maxham withdraws his motion. Tim Maxham nominates Bob Chutter, Sylvia Jensen seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
- Regular Meeting schedule -. Tim Maxham motions set the regular meeting schedule as the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the GISU Central Office, Sylvia Jensen seconds, discussion took place regarding setting a monthly or quarterly meeting. Roll vote: Michael Savage - no, Whitney Maxham - yes, Ryan Latimer - yes, Sylvia Jensen - yes, Nathan Robinson - no, Whitney Doremus - yes, Bob Chutter - yes, Tim Maxham - yes, Brad Blanchette - yes, motion passes.
- Meeting locations - Board discussed and will continue to offer a remote option.
- Annual board work session - tabled
- Designate places for posting meeting agendas - Tim Maxham motions to post meeting agendas at the Central Office and each school building, Bob Chutter seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
- Robert's rules of order - Tim Maxham motions to follow Robert's rules for small boards, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
- Code of Ethics - These were accepted or will be accepted at the local board level.
- Communications practices - Michael Clark reviewed best practices of use of emails.
- Board development - discussion took place around offerings from the VSBA
- Local and statewide education advocacy responsibilities - discussion took place around using knowledge to advocate for schools and local resources.
- Designate Newspaper - Tim Maxham motioned to designate the Islander for legal notices and publication records, Whitney Doremus seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

3. Adjust the Agenda - Michael Clark would like to add hiring committees as a "7a" item.

4. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard - none

5. Consent Agenda

i. Approve the minutes from 1/27/2022 and 2/24/2022 - Tim Maxham motioned to approve the minutes from January 27, 2022 and February 24, 2022 as presented, Brad Blanchette seconds. Roll vote: Michael Savage - abstain, Whitney Maxham - yes, Ryan Latimer - yes, Sylvia Jensen - abstain, Nathan Robinson - abstain, Whitney Doremus - abstain, Bob Chutter - abstain, Tim Maxham - yes, Brad Blanchette - yes, motion passes.

Reports

6. Financial - Rob Gess shared the financial summary report provided in the packet. He also provided updates on P-EBT and food service as well as the status of the work on the FY21 audit. The due date of the audit has been delayed until September 30, 2022 due to COVID. Tim Maxham motions that the board has received and reviewed the budget to actuals dated March 17, 2022, Bob Chutter seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

Superintendent - Michael Clark reviewed the written report provided in the packet and attendance at the weekly community meeting.

Board Business.

7. Review of Current Goals - Rob Gess, Megan Grube, Nick DeVita, and Michael Clark reviewed the goals that were discussed at the January meeting to catch up the new board members.

7 (a) Hiring - Michael Clark reviewed that hiring committees are starting to be formed for teacher hiring at the GISU-level and the facilities director position. Michael Clark asked if the board would like to be included in the hiring committee.

8. Masking Guidelines - covered in the Superintendent report

9. 2022-2023 School Calendar - Michael Clark reviewed the calendar presented as well as the feedback from the Abenaki Tribe around Indigenous People's day being a student day. The SU approves the calendar. Tim Maxham motions to approve the calendar as presented, Bob Chutter seconds. Nathan Robinson thanked Michael and the administration for not having half days. Bob Chutter indicated that providing content and honoring the letter from the Abenaki Tribe. All in favor, motion passes.

10. Act 173 Update - Michael Clark shared that census block numbers have been sent to GISU and he has contacted the AOE to figure out how it seems so short. The calculation is based on an average of FY 17, 18, and 19. This rolling average does not take into account the increase. There is a second option to fund with the average of FY 18, 19, and 20. Michael Clark has given testimony at the legislature and planning at a local level has begun to account for shortfalls. Bob Chutter asked about options. Michael Clark shared that continued to put pressure on the legislature. And Act 173 also discussed completion of the weighting study, which has not yet been completed and so rural-ness and poverty levels have not been fully understood.

11. Central Office Contracts Negotiations - Tim Maxham motions to enter executive session to discuss central office contract negotiations, Bob Chutter seconds, all in favor, board enters executive session at 7:42 p.m. The Board exited executive session at 7:53 p.m. No action taken.

12. Other - none

Closure

13. Setting the next agenda - insurance designee, review daily substitute rates

14. Adjourn - Michael Savage motions to adjourn, Tim Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 7:55 p.m.