

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

DRAFT MINUTES

Call to Order

1. Call to order at 6:03 p.m.

Introductions. In attendance:

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

-Staff: Susan McKelvie, Michael Clark, Rob Gess, Julie Pidgeon, Helen Bishop

-Audience: Michael Wright (LCATV), Dominick Wilder, Helen Bishop, Evan Pidgeon, Austin Marcotte, Max Bumbeck, Isolde Frank, Alex Frank, Harrison Althoff

2. Adjustment of Agenda

-Added signing 2 contracts

-Added discussion of athletic director (action)

-T. Maxham requested an executive session to discuss the teacher contract negotiations. Superintendent M. Clark said under the ground rules for negotiations, information cannot be shared unless it reaches impasse.

-Added a student presentation on the Boston trip.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Consent Agenda (Action)

A. Approve minutes from May 16, 2019.

M. Henderson requested the minutes be amended to move the "interview board candidates" from June 6 to June 20 in the Closure section.

T. Maxham made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2019, meeting as amended. M. Henderson seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote with B. Chutter abstaining.

5. Reports

A. Financial (R. Gess): R. Gess reviewed the budget-to-actual report with the board. There are no exposures on revenue side. On the expenditures side, the residency checks have reduced tuition costs. He said there also will be savings from the HRA (health reimbursement account) reconciliation. There

was a staff position the school budgeted but was unable to fill, which also resulted in savings. The district is in great financial shape at the end of the financial year.

Audit update: The auditors have the information requested, and R. Gess and M. Clark are talking with the auditors weekly. He does not anticipate any issues. R. Gess also informed the board about time-consuming process for purchase orders. He is recommending a more streamlined system that will improve timely ordering. He will check the proposed process with the auditors.

R. Gess shared the GISU is looking for an electronic system for logging time sheets for substitutes and other hourly employees.

T. Maxham made a motion that the board reviewed and accepted the financial report of May 29, 2019. B. Chutter seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

B. Superintendent's (M. Clark): The GISU is focused on the individual school audits. Contracts for support staff were distributed on time. The hiring process throughout the GISU is going well. The work for the GISU office is on track to be completed July 1. He does not believe the central office will be prepared to move July 1, however.

Board Business

Boston Trip Presentation: J. Pidgeon and eighth-graders Alex Frank, Evan Pidgeon, Max Bumbeck and Harrison Althoff presented about their experiences on the Boston field trip. The board expressed appreciation to the students and J. Pidgeon and Samantha Cantell for the trip.

6. Hiring Update (S. McKelvie)

S. McKelvie reported the school has successfully found candidates for two open positions for next school year.

She recommends the board hire Daniel Fouts to be the new Library Media teacher. He is coming to South Hero from Arkansas. He has been a science teacher who followed his passion with technology.

She recommends the board hire Lexi Wisnowski to be the school counselor. She is a new teacher who lives in Winooski and has a background in supporting students in summer camps and community organizations. She is completing her licensure this summer.

The superintendent interviewed both candidates and recommended the board accept his and S. McKelvie's recommendations to hire both candidates.

M. Henderson moved the board accept the recommendation to hire Lexi Wisnowski to be school counselor. B. Chutter seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

M. Henderson moved the board accept the recommendation to hire Daniel Fouts to be library media specialist. B. Chutter seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

S. McKelvie recommended the board hire Justin Gardner to serve as Folsom School's athletic director. B. Chutter moved the board accept the recommendation to hire Justin Gardner be athletic director. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

S. McKelvie shared that she has hired two people who have been subbing in the building for two open paraprofessional positions that the school was unable to fill earlier in the year. She will have contracts for those positions for the board in the future.

T. Maxham asked if the first-grade teacher would be returning. S. McKelvie said she would.

7. End of school year plans (S. McKelvie): S. McKelvie shared the GISU's plans for professional development for staff for the final four days of the school year. The board reviewed the plans.

8. Approval of Bills for Payment.

B. Vaughan moved the board approve payment of bills in Batch 4342 totaling \$185,965.09. B. Chutter seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

9. Tuition waiver (M. Clark): M. Clark shared a request from Tara Couture regarding Policy 14A that allows children of staff to enroll in Folsom School. She is requesting her children be allowed to enroll in Folsom for the 2019-2020 school year. The superintendent said he could not find a policy 14A but noted that there is history of doing this. M. Clark said he had questions about how it works with compensation and taxes.

D. Cain forwarded policy 14A to the superintendent. M. Clark said it highlights the issue of having different policy manuals. He noted this policy never made it into the policy manuals.

M. Clark referenced research into this issue by previous superintendent Don Van Nostrand that the tuition waiver is essentially providing the students scholarships that are not taxable. B. Chutter asked about other expenses such as special education. M. Clark said he anticipated the board would be responsible for special education costs. M. Clark noted the board has the relationship with the employee as well as the relationship with the student's sending district. He said the sending district does not have to reimburse the board for special education costs. D. Cain said policy 14A said it does not apply to special education costs. M. Clark said the language concerns him.

M. Clark suggested the board put 14A on its policy review schedule.

B. Chutter asked if school choice applies to K-8 schools. M. Clark said he would research that question. M. Clark said S. McKelvie supports the request.

M. Henderson moved the board waive tuition for the Couture family for the 2019-2020 school year. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

10. Calendar (M. Clark): M. Clark said there was an issue in the calendar for the 2019-2020 school year being short one student day in January. B. Chutter moved the 2019-2020 school year be extended one day in June. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.

11. Policy Update: The superintendent answered questions from the last board meeting.

a) Policy re: child nutrition. The board had asked a question about providing flexibility around school celebrations. The superintendent read the policy and said the words "when feasible" provide flexibility for students to celebrate with a variety of foods. Additionally, regarding the question about the nutrition policy's reference to K-12, the superintendent recommends the policy be revised to apply to students in grades preK-8.

b) Head lice policy. M. Clark recommends the board revoke the head lice policy. The policy was adopted in 2005. The district's new nurse said the policy outlines practices that are not best practices. The superintendent recommends a procedure that reflects best practices, rather than a policy. Procedures are set by administration and can be changed without a vote of the board. M. Clark said the procedure would be standard throughout the GISU.

12. Summer board meeting schedule (M. Henderson): The board discussed changing its meeting schedule for the summer. The board will meet as follows for the summer:

- July 11 (second Thursday, instead of July 4): It will be considered a special meeting. The agenda may not be adjusted.
- Aug. 1

The next regular board meeting is June 20. At this meeting, the board will hear from two candidates for the anticipated school board opening. T. Maxham asked about a written letter from candidates. The board discussed the timing of D. Cain's resignation and the appointment of a new board member.

13. Other

None.

Closure

14. Setting the next agenda

June 20: interview board candidates (action anticipated), review and adopt policies, begin discussion for board retreat, and review SBAC data with Megan Grube

15. Adjourn

The board adjourned at 7:41 PM.

- B. Vaughan made a motion to adjourn. B. Chutter seconded the motion. Approved on a voice vote.
