

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

School Board Meeting

Thursday, June 24, 2021

Agenda

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

Admin Present: Michael Clark, Rob Gess

Public Present: Fred Duplieses (Sullivan & Powers)

Call to Order

1. Call to Order - Bentley Vaughan called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.
2. Adjust the Agenda - none
3. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard - none
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approve the minutes from 5/27/2021 - Chet Bromley motions to approve the minutes from May 27, Tim Maxham suggested the correction to section 4 in the new hire section, needs to verify the "second" as Tim is listed as having made the motion and seconded. With the correction made, Tim Maxham will second the motion, all in favor, motion passes.
 - b. Resignation:
 - i. Meg Foster - Behavioral Services Coordinator - Michael Clark shared that Meg has accepted a position at the South Hero school and Michael has accepted the resignation under Title 16 section 242. The board thanked Meg for her service
 - c. New hires:
 - i. Sydney Scott - Special Educator - Michael Clark recommends Sydney for the special education position. Tim Maxham motions to support the recommendation of hire of Sydney Scott, Chet Bromley second, all in favor, motion passes.

Reports

5. Financial Report - Rob Gess shared the budget to actuals provided in the packet. Really no change in guidance till the end of the school year. Special ed is still projected to be under budget and general office spending is also projected to come in under budget. In order to meet the Sullivan and Powers timeline for audit completion, will be holding a strict cut off deadline for FY21 of July 31. Have completed the final payroll for the school year, the last two payrolls are typically the most challenging. Seindie Ries has done a great job managing two very complex payrolls. Rob reviewed the work that will commence to complete reporting and set up of the new fiscal year within the business office. Rob also shared information on the legislature and the passing of the yield - which will result in tax decreased in all the towns; and legislation on school construction - this included the requirement of a certified facilities director and a five year capital plan development. Rob also shared good news on small school grants districts are eligible for. He also shared information on P-EBT and the hours of effort to manage the project. The team is hoping they are complete with the data transfers as it has had an impact on resources in the business office. Tim Maxham asked about transfers - Rob indicated the report was printed prior to completion and so it will be reflected in next month's report. Tim Maxham motion that the board has received and reviewed budget to actual report number 27403 dated June 14, 2021, Bentley Vaughan second, all in favor, motion passes.

Superintendent's Report - Michael Clark shared his written report from the packet. Michael indicated to be respectful of Fred's time, he asked for questions. Tim Maxham indicated he will ask his questions under other to be respectful of Fred's time. .

Board Business.

6. Audit Presentation - Michael Clark thanked Fred for joining. Fred Duplieses from Sullivan & Powers reviewed the audit report. He highlighted the information in the grant section and that some grants will show up in this year's statements as revenue because of the timing of receipt. This included following up from previous findings and internal control reviews. There were no compliance findings this year, but did have a few material weaknesses, but less than last year. He also reviewed the response from the GISU business office. Michael Clark clarified that there is a fund balance of \$750,000 give or take - what that means is the GISU is carrying this in a bank account once everything is collected that is owed and paid out what the GISU owes. This is important for the board to hear because there is not necessarily a board policy for a fund balance. One of the things we will need to review in the next couple months will be reviewing what to do with the fund balance. Suspect this will grow in FY21 and need to address what an acceptable fund balance is for the GISU. This should likely be added to a future agenda. Fred indicated that there is no statute addressing this and it is a recommendation in the audit findings to create a policy regarding the fund balance. Brad Blanchette asked if the goal was to have no audit findings? Fred Duplieses indicated it is a possibility and the goal, but with new regulations, it is unlikely as everyone is navigating the guidance for the new ESSER funding. Michael, Rob, and the Board thanked Fred and the work of his team.
7. Staff Recognition - Michael Clark shared the staff recognition bonuses provided by the local boards for the staff that worked within the school buildings. There are eleven employees that did not receive that bonus. Bentley Vaughan said that they should be included, Brad Blanchette agrees. Brad Blanchette moves to give acknowledgement and thanks of \$250 of the eleven employees, Tim Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
8. C25 - Admission of Non-residential students - Bentley Vaughan indicated this is a second reading. Brad Blanchette motions to accept the policy C25, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
9. E21 - Distribution of Non-school sponsored Literature in Schools - Bentley Vaughan made a motion to approve the policy E21 with option A, Tim Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes.
10. D21 - Education Support System - Bentley Vaughan motioned to approve the policy D21, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
11. B20 - Personnel Recruitment, Selection & Background Checks - Bentley Vaughan motions to approve the policy B20, Brad Blanchette seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
12. Central Office Lease - Michael Clark indicated the space has been amazing, it has provided a professional workspace and having the team in one office space has been beneficial. Michael recommends that the GISU reach out to the CIUUSD to renew the lease at the end of the term of the current lease. The board agrees and Michael will reach out to the CIUUSD chair to put on the next agenda.
13. Summer Hours - Michael Clark indicated that this will be our first summer in the office to allow the public to drop in. Michael reviewed the summer hours of the Grand Isle School and the GISU. The Grand Isle School person does not work on Fridays during the summer to "buzz" folks in. Michael suggested that the office be closed to drop in hours on Fridays, but still open by appointment. Michael indicated he will advertise hours of 8-2 Monday through Friday in summer and by appointment on Fridays. Always encourage anyone to make an appointment if they are looking for someone in particular in case of vacation schedules.
14. Other - Tim Maxham asked about community meetings continuing through the summer, Michael Clark shared that there was not much for attendance for the last 6 or 7 meetings. Will hold the next community meeting on Wednesday, August 12. Tim Maxham asked about the transportation study. Michael indicated he has had a preliminary conversation with a company - that company has a price of about \$12-15,000 and they also do the RFPs and run the whole bidding process for about \$15,000 as well. Will be creating a written report for the next meeting and having it be an agenda topic. Tim Maxham asked about the ESSER funding and control of spending. Michael Clark indicated the spending will align with the Opportunity BluePrint Megan Grube presented last month. Tim asked about funding for the air handling system and things like that. Michael shared the process and indicated that any building updates would be run past the board.

Closure

15. Setting the next agenda - Transportation, Central Office Lease update, HVAC system project update. The board discussed location of the meeting - the board agreed that hosting the meetings in the GISU Conference Room is logical.

16. Adjourn - Bentley Vaughan motions to adjourn, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 7:44 p.m.