

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

Alburgh School District

School Board Regular Meeting

Monday, August 2, 2021

Minutes

To view the recording, please [click here](#).

Board Present: Trevor Creller, Stacey Gould, Whitney Maxham

Admin Present: Michael Clark, Rob Gess, Beth Hemingway

Public Present: Mona Reed, Greta Brunswick, Jessica Barron

Call to Order

1. Call to Order - Trevor Creller called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. Adjust the Agenda - none
3. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard - Mona Reed asked about a staff member returning. Michael Clark indicated that this is a personnel issue that cannot be discussed, but there will be a licensed teacher for the subject.
4. Consent Agenda (Action)
 - a. Approve the minutes from 7/12/2021 - Stacey Gould motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Whitney Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes.
 - b. New hires -
 - i. Michael Clark shared the recommendation of hire of Shirley Mora as a .5 FTE licensed school social worker. Stacey Gould motioned to approve the recommendation of the superintendent, Whitney Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes. Stacey Gould motions to authorize Trevor Creller to sign the contract on behalf of the board, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
 - ii. Michael Clark shared the recommendation of hire of Meghan Mello as a Behavioral Interventionist. Stacey Gould motioned to support the superintendent's recommendation of hire of Meghan Mello and authorize Trevor Creller to sign the contract on behalf of the board, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
 - iii. Michael Clark indicated the board had approved the hire of Lincoln Martin as an interventionist, but needs a signature on the contract. Stacey Gould motioned to authorize Trevor Creller to sign the contract, Whitney Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes.
5. Reports
 - a. Superintendent's Report - Michael Clark shared updates including that we are awaiting guidance from the Agency of Education related to school reopening in the fall and safety measures. Anticipate it will look similar to guidance from the end of the school year. Discussion took place around anticipated comparisons to last year vs. this year. Michael Clark clarified that the Secretary of Education has clearly stated that a remote option cannot be made available based on the necessity of 51% of students needing to be in the building to count as a school day.
 - b. Financial Report - Rob Gess shared the budget to actuals provided in the packet. This included budget to actuals for FY21 and an initial FY22 budget to actuals. Rob reviewed the operations to report to the state the FY21 finances. Rob thanked the Alburgh team for assisting in meeting deadlines. The fresh fruit and veggie application has also been submitted - again Rob thanked the food service team in Alburgh for their assistance in compiling and submitting.
 - c. Principal Report - Beth Hemingway shared the written report provided in the packet. Have the back to school letter drafted for parents, but was hoping for guidance to be released. Hoping to have back to school workshops for parents and students next week to help ease anxiety about

returning to school in a pandemic. Will also be hosting the traditional back to school BBQ - will need some volunteer cooks for this if anyone is willing. Beth reviewed the maintenance work that has been completed and those in process. Beth reviewed the need for new cafeteria tables and was hoping for board approval for new cafeteria tables. Beth reviewed the open positions at this time. There is a concern about hiring a preschool teacher with a certified teaching license.

Board Business.

6. Clubhouse Committee updates - Michael Clark introduced Greta Brunswick, she has been on the Clubhouse Committee for about two years. Greta shared with the board that NRBC is looking to support the project by hiring a construction manager for pre construction work at this point in the project. This will involve coordinating with the architect to complete the schematic design and work toward the design development phase. This would include coordinating with the architect to do reality-based cost estimating and value-based engineering. This will help to ensure accurate building costs and create a building that is within the budget of raised funds. Greta reviewed that she has provided a contract to Mike Savage as a party of the School Board since the Alburgh School District would be taking over the contract during the build phase. Greta has indicated that she has provided Mike Savage the procurement that has been completed for the hiring choice of construction manager. Mike Savage was on the review committee that came up with the recommendation of the construction manager. Greta indicated she is looking for endorsement of hiring of the recommendation and approval of taking over the construction phase of the contract of the construction manager. Trevor Creller indicated that the rest of the board does not have this information. Michael Clark also shared that he does not have any of this information, but is aware that Mike Savage has reached out to the school attorney within the last couple weeks, but was not aware of the conversations that have occurred. Michael Clark indicated that he is aware of the constraints on school districts in relation to construction projects of this size and he encouraged the board to gather specific information from the school attorney prior to signing or approving a contract. Michael Clark indicated he would recommend the attorney also review the compliance related to Title 16 around school construction. Michael Clark indicated that perhaps Michael Savage has this information from Chris, the school attorney, but that information has not been provided. Greta asked about Title 16 and the relation of the Agency of Education needing to approve school construction projects, Michael Clark indicated that it is. Greta said this was brought up, but in a way that he was unsure if it was a requirement or not. It does need to be further researched. Greta indicated she is concerned more in hiring a preconstruction manager at this time and having the school board endorse the contract. Stacey Gould indicated there is no way to endorse that at this time without having the rest of that information presented from the school's attorney. Trevor Creller this should be an agenda item for the next meeting to allow for the questions to be answered. Michael Clark indicated the board is hoping for a copy of the contract, procurement summary, and an MOU reviewed by the school attorney. Greta indicated there should also be clarification about Title 16 and requirements under that as well. Michael Clark asked about fund raising at this point. Greta indicated that was a reason for wanting to hire a construction manager within a short period of time was necessary this was to allow for value-based engineering. Michael Clark commended the Alburgh Clubhouse on the work they have done and clarified that the group is looking at a Plan B to lower costs to fix the funding raised for the project so far. Greta indicated this is correct. Michael Clark indicated this is helpful information to have when he reaches out to the attorney, as this moves up the timeline as the project is ready to move forward without reaching the fundraising goal that made the timeline less concrete previously when communicating to the attorney.

7. VTVLC Request - Michael Clark shared the request of the Barron family provided in the packet. VTVLC is the program the school district would need to use as a program partner for remote learning. Michael Clark reviewed the costs structures associated with the partnership, one inclusive of providing a teacher, and once without. The school district has decided in the past not to participate with VTVLC because of

the hiring issues in general and the need to provide an instructor. If the school district pays tuition to VTVLC, the student could still count as an equalized pupil. The board discussed the remote options for students. Michael Clark indicated there are not a lot of requests for a remote option for students and do not anticipate this will open a "flood gate" of students moving into remote. Stacey Gould indicated she supports this option if it is best for the student. Whitney Maxham echoed the sentiments. Trevor Creller indicated he supported this if it is best for the student. Stacey Gould motions to authorize the administration to create a partnership with VTVLC and allow students to access it, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes. Jessica thanked the board and looks forward to the opportunity this brings to her child and others in the community.

8. Approval of bills for payment -

- a. Stacey Gould motioned to approve the purchase of the cafeteria tables with expenditure not to exceed \$14,000, Whitney Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes.
- b. Trevor Creller shared that he reviewed the two packets for FY21 and FY22. Stacey Gould motioned to allow Trevor Creller to sign warrants on behalf of the board, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

9. C24 - Interscholastic Sports - Michael Clark indicated there was a change to the policy from the first reading - other boards suggested change from credits to good academic standing as determined by principal. The board agreed that made sense. Stacey Gould motioned to approve policy C24 as presented, Whitney Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes.

10. F26 - Security Cameras - Stacey Gould motioned to approve policy F26 as presented, Whitney Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes.

11. C20 - Student Conduct & Discipline - Stacey Gould motioned to approve policy C20 as presented, Whitney Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes.

12. B21 - Professional Development - Stacey Gould motioned to approve policy B21 as presented, Whitney Maxham second, all in favor, motion passes.

13. VSBIT Proxy - Michael Clark reviewed the annual meeting information on the VSBIT/VEHI. Michael reviewed the three ways the board can vote. Michael reviewed that Michael Inners is a member of the CIUUSD board and is attending and willing to serve as a proxy. The board discussed sending a board member or a proxy. Whitney Maxham motions to have Michael Inners serve as the proxy, Stacey Gould seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

14. VEHI Proxy - Stacey Gould motions to have Michael Clark serve as the proxy, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

15. Other

Closure

16. Setting the next agenda - updates on the Alburgh Clubhouse based on the information outlined during discussion - specifically having the attorney review preconstruction and construction, relation to Title 16.

17. Adjourn - Stacey Gould motioned to adjourn, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.