

Grand Isle Supervisory Union
South Hero School District

School Board Regular Meeting

Thursday, Aug. 19, 2021, at 6 p.m.

Location: Folsom Education & Community Center

Join with Google Meet: meet.google.com/jcn-guaz-snh

Join by phone: (US) +1 513-666-7379 PIN: 476 044 895#

MINUTES

Call to Order

1. Call to order at 6:09 p.m. (B. Chutter)

Introductions. In attendance:

-Board members: Tim Maxham, Bentley Vaughan, Bob Chutter, Nathaniel Kouns. Absent: Jen Lyon-Horne

-Staff: Susan McKelvie, Rob Gess, Julie Pidgeon. Michael Clark joined the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

-Audience: Jim Jones (LCATV)

2. Adjustment of Agenda

B. Chutter added the following to the agenda:

-Leave request

-Hiring of a licensed educator

-Support Staff hiring notification

-Covid guidelines and decision-making discussion

-Behavioral interventionist job description

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Consent Agenda (Action)

A. Approve minutes from July 15, 2021, and Aug. 5, 2021. T. Maxham made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2021, and Aug. 5, 2021, meetings. N. Kouns seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

5. Reports

A. Financial (R. Gess) (Action)

R. Gess shared a new summary financial status report with the board. B. Chutter suggested adding the encumbrance amount to the summary financial report. T. Maxham asked if the budget-to-actuals report would be eliminated. Gess said it would not, and he will continue to provide revenue reports. The summary report is in addition to those other

reports. T. Maxham asked whether the district would be able to account for the recent board secretary expenditure in last year's budget. Gess said the expense of \$700 would be corrected as an FY21 expense. T. Maxham made a motion that the board received and reviewed the financial report #14775 of Aug. 11, 2021. N. Kouns seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote. R. Gess left the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

- B. Superintendent's (M. Clark): The board reviewed the superintendent's community letters. Chutter noted Clark has shared guidelines regarding Covid protocols with the board.
- C. Principal's (S. McKelvie): S. McKelvie shared her report with the board. She updated the board that the district will offer Covid surveillance testing again, starting the first week of school. S. McKelvie said staff learned a lot last year, and she is confident the staff and students can wear masks without problem and follow protocols for safety. Inservice is Monday, Aug. 23, and teachers have a planning day Aug. 24. Folsom has a rising enrollment of 150 students. T. Maxham asked about the list of substitutes. McKelvie said the school does not have many substitutes. Maxham asked for an update on summer activities. McKelvie said offering scholarships to programs was successful and gave students the opportunity to participate in swimming lessons, theater, art and nature camps, soccer and more. She said outdoor, active camps are desirable. Transportation was not provided. The GISU administration has started to talk about how to build on this summer's programs for next summer. Maxham encouraged communication about the school's activities to the broader South Hero community.
- D. Leave of Absence request: S. McKelvie shared that Patrick Candon, a behavioral interventionist for the past 3 years and a licensed teacher, is moving into a position as a teaching interventionist to respond to learning needs in the school using ESSER funding. He has requested a leave of absence from his position as a paraprofessional interventionist to serve in this new position for the 2021-22 school year. T. Maxham made a motion to approve a leave of absence for Patrick Candon for the 2021-22 school year from his position as a paraprofessional behavioral interventionist. N. Kouns seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote. T. Maxham moved to hire Patrick Candon as a licensed educator interventionist with ESSER funds for the 2021-22 school year. N. Kouns seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.
- E. Superintendent M. Clark informed the board he has hired support staff personnel. He also highlighted the return of community meetings and surveillance testing. The surveillance testing is "opt-in"; a person is tested only if they sign-up. It's free and results go to the individual.

Board Business

6. Covid-19 Authority: B. Chutter made a motion as follows: To ensure that all stakeholders are aware of how decisions will be made in response to the ever-changing Covid-19 pandemic, the Board resolves to continue to empower the Superintendent to be responsible for the health and

safety of students and staff. To that end, the Superintendent is authorized by the Board to make decisions on behalf of the District, informed by and in accordance with state and federal guidance and mandates, on all measures and protocols necessary to keep students and staff safe while maintaining an effective learning environment. Further, the Superintendent is encouraged to collaborate with regional school districts on establishing consistent measures across the region while keeping the South Hero School District's best interest in mind. The Superintendent will continue to keep the Board informed on these matters. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

7. Approval of Bills for Payment. B. Vaughan made a motion to pay the bills in Batch #10320 totaling \$112,623.35. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote. B. Vaughan made a motion to pay bills in Batch 10319 totaling \$3,752.64 for FY21. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

8. Replacement for school district clerk (Discussion, possible Action) (B. Chutter). T. Maxham moved that the board appoint Kim Julow to serve as the School Clerk until Town Meeting election in 2022. B. Vaughan seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

9. C24 - Interscholastic Sports (B. Chutter)(Action) Clark said the requested changes from the first reading were made. B. Vaughan moved that the board accept the (C24) Interscholastic Sports as presented on its second reading. N. Kouns seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

10. F26 - Security Cameras (B. Chutter)(Action) B. Vaughan moved that the board accept the (F26) Security Cameras as presented on its second reading. N. Kouns seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

11. C20 - Student Conduct & Discipline (B. Chutter)(Action) B. Vaughan moved that the board accept the (C20) Student Conduct & Discipline as presented on its second reading. N. Kouns seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

12. B21 - Professional Development (B. Chutter)(Action) B. Vaughan moved that the board accept the (B21) Professional Development as presented on its second reading. N. Kouns seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

13. A25b: Delegation of Authority During Covid-19 Pandemic: The board gave a first reading to the policy for school action during the Covid-19 pandemic. The policy delegates authority to the superintendent to make decisions during the pandemic, and it is similar to the one used last year under the state of emergency.

14. Summary of legislation passed (M. Clark)(Discussion): Clark reported on laws from the last legislative session. There were 16 related to education. Maxham asked about a law related to building maintenance and how the supervisory union would develop those plans. Clark said the district first will need a certified building and grounds supervisor, who makes a plan. He suggested that the supervisory union discuss the matter to see if there are possibilities for collaboration.

15. Board retreat outcomes (B. Chutter)(Discussion): Chutter summarized some points from the board retreat, including providing more community engagement with the population that does not have students in school. The board is interested in holding a community-focused meeting once a quarter. One suggestion is to revise the data calendar to be quarterly. The board also discussed continuity on the board. The board would like to explore its role in setting high-level goals for education. T. Maxham noted three positions will be up for re-election in March 2022, and he said having a diversity of community members serving on the board is beneficial.

16. VSBIT proxy (B. Chutter)(Action): The Vermont School Boards Insurance Trust will hold its annual meeting Nov. 5. No Board members indicated they could attend the meeting. Chutter moved that the board assign its proxy for the VSBIT meeting to Mike Inners. Vaughan seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

17. VEHI proxy (B. Chutter)(Action) Chutter moved that the board assign its proxy for the Vermont Education Health Initiative annual meeting to Michael Clark. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

18. Behavioral Interventionist job description: Clark told the Board he would like to change the behavioral interventionist job description. He said the BI job description currently requires a Bachelor's degree. The district has a shortage of BIs and Clark has had to exclude candidates who otherwise would be hired because they hold an Associate's degree. Clark asked that South Hero, as a non-union support staff building, change the behavioral interventionist job description from requiring a Bachelor's degree to stating that a Bachelor's degree is preferred. No board members objected to the change.

The board closed by expressing wishes for a successful start of the school year to Folsom staff.

Closure

19. Setting the next agenda:

Sept. 16, 2021

-A25b: Delegation of Authority During Covid-19 Pandemic: second reading and action

-Data reporting calendar update

First quarterly community engagement meeting:

-Board's higher-level objectives

20. Adjourn

The board adjourned at 7:16 p.m. on a voice vote. B. Vaughan made a motion to adjourn. T. Maxham seconded the motion. Approved unanimously on a voice vote.