

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

School Board Meeting

Thursday, August 26, 2021

Minutes

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

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

Public Present: LCATV crew

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 7/22/2021 - Chet Bromley motions to approve, Tim Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
 - b. New hire:
 - i. Sally Dixon - Special Educator - Tim Maxham motions to approve the superintendent's recommendation, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

Reports

5. Financial Report - Michael Clark outlined that Rob has provided a written report from the packet. Tim Maxham motions that the board has received and reviewed the budget to actuals for fiscal year 2022 dated August 17, 2021, Bentley Vaughan seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

Superintendent's Report - Michael Clark shared the written superintendent's report. This included reports from the Directors of Curriculum, Student Support Services, and IT. Michael added that inservice was at the beginning of the week and students have returned this week. Tim Maxham asked about chromebooks and distribution of technology. Dave Brisson updated the board on the use of ESSER funding to update technology and the asset retirement plans.

Board Business.

6. Technology Presentation - Dave Brisson shared his presentation outlining the work of the IT team across the SU. This included outlines of network upgrades, firewall upgrades, server upgrades, firewall upgrades, VOIP upgrades, wifi expansions, internet bandwidths expansions, and asset replacement cycles. There were also updates around the Google Workspace updates, the student information system updates, service desk plus updates, mobile device management, and antivirus updates. Dave reviewed the benefits of these upgrades related to safety and productivity. Dave outlined the makeup of the IT team accomplishing this work - the IT team consists of 2 people supporting all this work. Dave highlighted that in other systems, this workload is typically accomplished by more people. Dave highlighted some of the opportunities for improvement for the tech department including cyber security training for staff, school-level tech support, and tech integrationists. Brad Blanchette highlighted the importance of the tech integrationist position and the difference this can make in the classroom and vocalized support of creating this role. The board expressed appreciation for the work done by the team.
7. Re-Opening Plan - Michael Clark shared the memo by the Agency of Education around reopening safety plans. Michael highlighted the policy used last year to delegate authority around COVID response.

The board discussed the advantages and disadvantages of delegating authority in relation to COVID decisions and the fast-moving pace related to decisions around the virus.

Brad Blanchette made the motion: 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 GISU's best interest in mind. The Superintendent will continue to keep the Board informed on these matters. Bentley Vaughan seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

8. GISU Assessment Structure - Michael Clark reviewed the assessment structure that was presented in last month's meeting. This was presented as informational at that time. Michael reviewed the current assessment structure and the carry forward from previous fiscal years. Michael reviewed that he and Rob Gess have some concern about food service and the reimbursement dispersion. Michael reviewed the issues with audits in the past that have led to some of the issues with the current assessment structure. Michael suggested that in FY21 to have the reimbursement be based on claims. Anticipate coming to the board with this in another meeting. Michael is recommending that the current carry forward funds are used to negate balances in food service for each district and re-assess the structure of the food service reimbursement. Bentley Vaughan motions to set the general operations, the special education, the transportation, and the district nurse assessments as outlined in the GISU Assessment document provided in the August 26 GISU board meeting packet. Chet Bromley seconds, discussion took place around the transportation assessment. All in favor, motion passes.

9. C24 - Interscholastic Sports; 10. F26 - Security Cameras; 11. C20 - Student Conduct & Discipline; 12. B21 - Professional Development - Bentley Vaughan motions to approve the policies C24, F26, C20, and B21 as presented, Brad Blanchette seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

13. F1 - Travel Reimbursement - Bentley Vaughan indicated this is a first reading. Michael Clark indicated these policies were approved recently, but the state has made a change to the legal reference.

14. F23 - Capitalization of Assets - Bentley Vaughan indicated this is a first reading. Michael Clark indicated these policies were approved recently, but the state has made a change to the legal reference.

15. Central Office Lease - Michael Clark share the CIUUSD has offered another 3 year lease with the same terms. Tim Maxham motions to accept the extension of the lease for the three years, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

16. VEHI proxy; 17. VSBIT proxy - Michael Clark shared that Michael Inners is intending to attend the annual meetings. Chet Bromley motions to appoint Michael Inners as the proxy for VSBIT and VEHI, Tim Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes

18. Other - none

Closure

19. Setting the next agenda - Student Support Services Presentation, surplus funds and food service assessment, policy work continues

20. Adjourn - Brad Blanchette motions to adjourn, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes, meeting adjourns at 8:00 p.m.