

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

CIUUSD Regular Meeting

School Board Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Minutes

[Click here to view recording](#)

Board Present: Michael Inners, Nathan Robsinson, Brad Blanchette, Chet Bromley

Admin Present: Michael Clark, Rob Gess, Amanda Ellison, Megan Grube, Lauren Thomas

Public Present: Megan DeVinny, Kevin Christopher, Sylvia Jensen

Call to Order

1. Call to Order - Michael Inners calls the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
2. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard - none
3. Adjust the agenda - Audit presentation from Sullivan & Powers is postponed until November. Rob Gess will share updates. Suggest moving the Isle La Motte discussion to item 9.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approve the minutes from 9/1/2020 - Chet Bromley motions to approve minutes as presented, all in favor, motion passes, Brad Blanchette abstains.
5. Reports
 - a. Superintendent's - Michael Clark shared the written report in the packet.
 - i. Reopening Update - Michael Clark shared that we have several weeks of hybrid learning under the belt and routines are being learned and moving more efficiently. Starting to get ready to increase more in-person learning as described in the letter from last Wednesday. Have done work with faculty & staff to plan and have a meeting with the k,1,2 teachers and principals tomorrow. We are starting with k,1,2 based on the guidance provided by the AOE. With the change in level 2 to level 3, we are preparing to bring back more in person learners. Planning to have continuity as much as possible throughout the GISU while taking into account the needs and configuration of the individual buildings. We are looking at a phased-in approach for these grades and will have them back no later than November 2. Working to bring back 3,4,5 and guidance around grade 6 distancing changed today and the leadership team will evaluate the effects of this change. Expect to have a published plan tomorrow. The pace as described has had mostly positive feedback from the community and there is support for the plan as it is evolving.
 - b. Principal - Lauren Thomas shares enrollment stats for the Grand Isle Campus. There has been a focus on community building in a virtual setting for the first month of school. Working on setting up classrooms to help students see social distances. Have had positive feedback from parents in the forms of letters and emails. Amanda Ellison shared that North Hero has similar feedback. North Hero is assessing how to bring more students based on the larger than average class sizes. Both principals clarified that there has been increased spending for materials to ensure compliance to safety protocols. Issues with desks and tables and the need to order more to be compliant with safety protocols.
 - c. Financial - Rob Gess shared the budget to actuals in the board packet. Not much to report this early in the year. High School tuition is starting to roll in. There have been some unexpected purchases in relation to COVID and are tracking separately. Have submitted a GISU-wide COVID relief application in the estimate of \$214,000, these are very restrictive funds. In "spare" time,

starting to build budget files. Ensuring that free & reduced lunch applications are completed and working with admin assistants.

Board Business.

6. Audit Presentation - Rob Gess shared that all three forming districts ended FY19 with surpluses in the general fund. Information was shared about revenue surpluses and line items that were over budgeted. Rob shared the findings from the audit and how they have been addressed going forward and trending in the right direction and findings acknowledge improvements between each fiscal year.

7. Approval of bills for payment - FY20 batch 2019 of \$15,320 for high school tuition based on last minute submission of the residency verification paperwork. Chet Bromley motions to approve batch 2019 for \$15,320, all in favor, motion passes. A second batch 2020 for \$123,897.53. Chet Bromley motions to approve batch 2020 for \$123,897.53, all in favor, motion passes.

8. Academic & Program Goals - Megan Grube shared a [powerpoint presentation](#) regarding the GISU Academic and Program Goals. Have been working to come together across the SU to have alignment vertically and horizontally around learning targets and program goals. The pandemic aided in helping move the goals along further. Megan Grube shared her presentation that outlined the common learning targets and their relation to the GISU mission of ensuring all members of the Grand Isle Learning Community are curious, creative, courageous, and capable of pursuing their aspirations in a diverse and ever-changing world. Megan Grube reviewed the targets for each core academic subjects and unified arts. We are in the process of creating proficiency-based report cards.

9. Isle La Motte space and property - Michael Inners indicated that there are two parts to the discussion - the contents of the building and the second part is the building itself. The building is owned by CIUUSD, statutory requirement is that it is maintained for three years as an educational facility. Sylvia Jensen would like to bring a high level beginning of a discussion for use of the Isle La Motte building. This is a commercial building on ten acres of land and is not being used in its max capacity and we need to consider what the best use of the space is and how much educational use is possible. Sylvia shared her idea of having a commercial real estate agent review the building. Understand it needs to be an educational space for a certain amount of time. Michael Clark shared that the CIUUSD board needs to consider the use of the building as an educational space. Should it not be able to be used as an educational space, it would need to be sold back to the town. The challenge that is going on is that what you are discussing would be a conversation for much later down the road as it was recently decided not to operate grades. Sylvia is requesting from the board to allow a commercial realtor to evaluate the building to help allow for planning for the future should the building be sold down the road. Michael Clark will do research around the deadline that Sylvia indicated and get back to the board. Michael Inners shared the proposed property dispersal plan that Michael Clark shared an email prior to the meeting around dispersing the assets within the building. This was a process used in other districts. This included:

Items to be used by a CIUUSD School are given priority.

The board sets a threshold of the value of items they want to be involved with the dispersal of

The board is involved with the dispersal of any item which would go to an employee or board member for their personal use.

The board would identify any sentimental items at the school and then determine how they would be dispersed.

All items not covered above would be dispersed in the following order:

Donation to the Town of Isle La Motte (Set Time Frame)

Donation to the Town of Isle La Motte Library (Set Time Frame)

Donation to other GISU Schools (Set Time Frame)

Donation to any Non Profit (Set Time Frame Suggest Free yard Sale one day first come first serve)

Donation to Community Member (Set Time Frame Suggest Free yard Sale one day first come first serve)

Left over materials are recycled or thrown away

Still believe there is some time out before these decisions need to be made. The building is being used in a limited capacity for educational purposes. Will pick up the conversation at the next meeting.

10. VSBIT Annual Meeting Voting proxy - Michael Inners shared the information from the packet around the annual meeting. There needs to be a voting representative. The GISU has appointed Michael Clark as the proxy for the GISU. Michael Inners moves to have Michael Clark act as the voting proxy for the VSBIT & VEHI annual meetings, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor motion passes.

11. VEHI Annual Meeting Voting proxy

12. Apportion letter for North Hero and Isle La Motte - Michael Clark shared that traditionally North Hero and Isle La Motte have had an apportion letter sent while building the budget for town use of space. Confirming amounts for North Hero and Isle La Motte from last year. Brad Blanchette motions to allow Michael Clark to send the apportionment letter to Isle La Motte and North Hero in the amount of previous years, Chet Bromley second, all in favor, motion passes.

13. North Hero space - Michael Clark shared that Amanda Ellison has shared that enrollment requires more space for students next year. Does it make sense to have Brad replace Mason on the sub committee to negotiate the North Hero space. Brad agrees to be a part of the committee. Nahan Robinson motions to nominate Brad Blanchette to the North Hero space committee, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

14. Calendar Discussion - Michael Clark shared that inservice days are aligned with long weekends or vacations. There has been a request that inservice days are moved to remote days, like Wednesdays. GISU and its member districts are unique and each board approves the calendar not just the GISU board. Michael reviewed the upcoming inservice days and the reasoning for the placement on the calendar. Trying to get the temperature of the boards and hoping to have unison if a calendar change is decided. The board did not express interest in altering the calendar at this time.

15. Board reorganization - GISU seat - Brad Blanchette expressed disinterest in being a member of the GISU board, current members are Chet Bromley and Amy Thompson. Nathan Robinson clarified that this would mean that North Hero would not be represented at the GISU level. Michael Inners expressed that the seat needs to be filled. Nathan Robinson motions to appoint Michael Inners as the third representative to the GISU board, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes. Michael Inners motions to nominate Nathan Robinson as vice chair, Chet Bromley seconds, all in favor, motion passes, Nathan Robinson abstains.

16. B8 - Electronic Communications policy & Addendum - The board discussed the logistics of the policy as presented by the VSBA. Michael Inners motions to approve the required policy and addendum as presented. Discussion took place regarding putting together a CIUUSD board committee to present the shortcomings of the policy to the VSBA for further review and edit to the board. Roll call vote taken, Michael Inners - yes, Nathan Robinson - no, Chet Bromley - no, Brad Blanchette - yes, vote 2-2, motion does not pass.

17. Policy Review Schedule and Optional Policies - The policy memo from the packet was reviewed. Michael Inners encouraged the board to review and will visit at the next board meeting. Michael Clark shared that this work is also happening at the GISU level. Michael Inners clarified to the board to send feedback directly to Michael Clark so that all districts are working cohesively.

18. Other - none

Closure

19. Setting the next agenda - Isle La Motte, North Hero and policy B8, audit presentation, and budget conversation

20. Adjourn - Nathan Robinson motions to adjourn, Chet seconds, all in favor, motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 10:06 p.m.