

Champlain Islands Unified Union School District
Meeting Monday, October 23, 2017
At Grand Isle School

Present:

Andy Julow, Chair

Gary Marckres

Jane Zera

Nathan Robinson

Mike Talbot

Don Van Nostrand, Superintendent

Rob Gess, Business Manager

Megan Grube, Director of Curric., Instruction & Technology

Meeting called to order by Andy Julow at 6:34 p.m.

Adjustment of Agenda: Andy added Superintendent Search to new business

Approval of Minutes of September 25, 2017: Minutes accepted as read

Public Input: None

Building Configurations:

Don Van Nostrand provided a handout with two options for the GISU Central Office space. Eric Arnzen, Principal at Grand Isle School, feels the wing by the library makes the most sense. Don reviewed the handout with board members. On the first handout, tech and curriculum office spaces would be included by the conference room. It was pointed out there is a third option, which would be to keep the curriculum office where it is currently.

Don mentioned that a board member has concerns about the GISU office moving into a school. Questions were raised if Grand Isle School would monopolize the central office's time? And would the central office be too far from the other schools? CIUUSD board asked if an alternative was suggested and if the current space is adequate for the needs? Megan Grube was asked if she'd like to stay in current spot, or if she'd prefer moving to Grand Isle School with Central Office staff. Megan answered that although she likes her space now, she would like to be with the Central Office staff.

Other topics discussed related to the GISU office moving to Grand Isle School: There would be a separate entrance; doorway built in the hallway will be locked; parking lot would need to be expanded; doors need to be handicap accessible.

It is up to the GISU Supervisory Union board to approve the move to Grand Isle School. At the next SU meeting, the board would like to know the current rents vs the cost of renovation. Mike Talbot will get a general ballpark quote from a contractor.

CIUUSD board likes configuration #1. A draft lease will need to be brought to the CIUUSD's November meeting.

Andy Julow advised that he met with Elaine Chasse, at Learning Adventure. He recapped their meeting: she likes her current space; utilities are expensive; concerns with playground at school; didn't know if there are any restrictions; should pre-k be riding the bus; would pre-k students have access to free and reduced lunch; wants to be on first floor with a separate entrance; wants at least 2000 square feet with 2 bathrooms and a kitchen area.

Grade Configuration Discussion:

Handout was provided by Megan Grube. She has spoken with the three principals (Grand Isle, North Hero and Isle La Motte), local curriculum directors and some teachers in Grand Isle. Page one of the handout shows the current models in our three schools and other local schools (which are more the exception). Megan spoke about the key considerations for configurations (fluctuating numbers of students, expertise of teachers, flexibility and collaboration). Megan was asked if she had a preference to specialization/departmentalization or self-contained structures. Megan replied that there are pros and cons to each structure. Do we need to consider 2 models (because of school size)? Answer was possibly. Megan will meet with three principals to review handouts.

Superintendent Search:

Board discussed interim superintendent position vs permanent position. CIUUSD does not want to advertise position. Andy Julow will present CIUUSD board's position at the next GISU meeting.

Executive Session if Needed: None needed

Board Correspondence/Sharing: None

Agenda Building:

Megan Grube will do an EQS presentation next meeting

Megan Grube will report on principal's feedback regarding her handout

Next Meeting: November 27, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at North Hero School

Gary Marckres made a motion to adjourn; second by Jane Zera. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.