

**Minutes Thursday, November 17, 2016 South Hero School Board Meeting  
At Folsom Education & Community Center**

**6:02 p.m.** Meeting called to order by Kris Bowser, Board Chair

**In Attendance:** Kris Bowser, RJ Sweeney, Bentley Vaughan, Board members; Emily Bowser, Board Secretary; Lynn Carpenter, GISU Business Manager; Lenny Badeau, Principal; Beth Hemingway, GISU Director of Student Support Services; Melissa Hood, Lisa Pendolino, Tim Maxham, Kari Banas, Melanie Henderson, Jen Lyon-Horne, Jessica McAllister

**Adjustment of Agenda:**

- Added Act 46 to "Follow-Up/Old Business"
- Added Robinson Gift to "Follow-Up/Old Business"

**Board Discussion:**

GISU FY18 Budget Review

- GISU Budget presented to Board Members RJ Sweeney and Bentley Vaughan, Kris Bowser saw them at the meeting itself. Board Members will take it home to review
- Lynn Carpenter advised the Board of possible areas where the budget often changes and numbers are more fluid.

Folsom FY18 Budget Planning

- Lynn Carpenter, GISU Business Manager presented a rough draft of the budget for review, reviewed assessments.
- Principal Badeau reviewed proposed increases for:
  - Substitutes, based on FY16/FY18 trends.
    - Lynn Carpenter spoke to the fact that GISU overall is looking into raising the wages paid to be more competitive
  - Subscriptions/Instructional software, to keep up with current subscriptions and intervention program subscriptions.
  - Library books
    - Last year a trust was used to compensate the library budget to keep increases down, so this year reintroducing it to the regular budget will be an increase, which both Kris Bowser and RJ Sweeney acknowledged was fully expected.
  - 30 iPads for the K-2
    - More appropriate for children in that age range, as opposed to typing on a Chromebook
    - Kris Bowser asked about IOS integration of apps, Lynn Carpenter clarified there was no anticipated conflict for educational supplements, it was only the business end where programs did not translate to IOS.

- Kris Bowser said that while going through budget season, this might be something to consider applying the Robinson gift to.
  - Principal Telephone Services: rates have gone up, so the budget will need to be adjusted to meet that increase.
  - Bussing
    - As currently budgeted, Folsom has 12 days of late buses with the new contract
    - Lynn Carpenter offered to try to negotiate with the bus company on Folsom's behalf to try to bring fees down when the contract comes up in 3 years.
    - Kris Bowser asked that Principal Badeau provide the Board with a projection of what the cost would be to resume late bussing, as there seems to be a need for it within the community.
- Beth Hemingway asked about the "average tuition" number and asked if the Board wanted to keep that number as-is, or inflate
  - Based upon the fact that the numbers are from FY17, and they anticipate tuition increases, Board asked that figures be estimated at the highest tuition with a padding of two students.
- Kris Bowser asked Principal Badeau to evaluate whether he felt supported enough by the Home/School Coordinator and the addition of a new Special Educator to reduce the Guidance position back to 3-days-a-week. It was provisionally raised to a 5-day-a-week status last year in order to support Principal Perry.
- Bentley Vaughan asked about balance sheets, as the Auditor had mentioned it as something the Board might start receiving. Lynn Carpenter said that it was her goal, but the Auditor made it a long-term 2-3 year implementation.
- Kris Bowser asked about when the final audit is expected.
  - Lynn thought in the next 2-3 weeks, and that as far as she is aware the Auditor has everything he needed, but if that changes she will inform the Board.

**Public Comments:**

Garden Club Presentation

- Update, presented by Lisa Pendolino & Melissa Hood
  - Since 2009 a lot of work has been done, trees removed, garden shed built, flower beds installed, berry bushes planted and vegetables planted so kids could easily access and be used by the school.
  - For Spring 2017 they would like to plant trees for shade in the back, remove the current front beds, and plant something in the place of the front beds.
  - Kris Bowser asked Principal Badeau to reach out to Krebs and Lansing to make sure that any trees would not impede or impact the recently-installed drainage system. He has started that process.
  - Principal Badeau asked about placement of trees, concerned about adding to existing congestion in the area. Lisa Pendolino acknowledged that they could reduce the number of trees from three to two to eliminate

that issue, and are not concrete on placement at this time as it is still in the early stages.

- Principal Badeau asked about about any regulations regarding replacing the front beds with any kind of plant, and Kris Bowser said that the town would need to be consulted on this.
  - The Garden Committee will consult with Gardner's Supply for best recommendations on what could thrive in that spot, and then will come back with a proposal for both Town Board and School Board.

**Board Action:**

- RJ Sweeney made motion to approve minutes for November 3, 2016. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of minutes for October 27, 2016 delayed until next meeting, as no quorum of members at that meeting present.
- Bentley Vaughan made motion to approve of bills for payment. Motion passed unanimously.
- Kris Bowser made a motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.. Motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session:** none

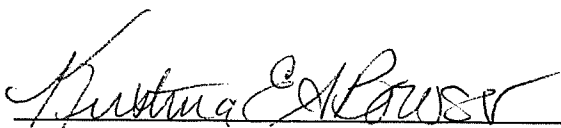
**Board Correspondence/Sharing:**

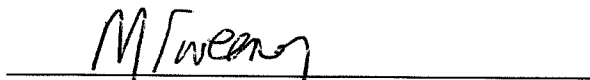
- Received a thank-you from Fellowship recipient

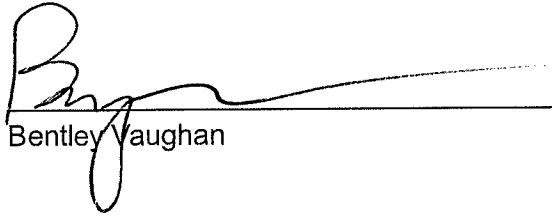
**Follow-up/Old Business:**

- Robinson Gift
  - Due to the way the budget was set up, there is money left in the gift.
  - Food Service manager sent out a request for updates to the kitchen, which the Board will review for next meeting.
- Act 46
  - Kris Bowser didn't put it on the agenda originally because it's budget season, and now that there's more time we can wait for the Legislature to continue to do its job.
  - Melanie Henderson reached out to Georgia, who will speak on the 12/6 meeting about prospective mergers, so she will attend that meeting, but agreed that Act 46 is not urgent at present.

Meeting officially adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

  
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Kristina Bowser

  
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RJ Sweeney



Bentley Vaughan