

Isle La Motte School Board Meeting
Isle La Motte School
November 18, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:12pm by LK

Attendance - Tom Tregan (TT), Barbara Burrington (BB), Louise Koss (LK), Barbara Callahan (BC), Lynn Carpenter (LC), Beth Hemingway (BH). Public present: Jane Zera (JZ), Joyce Tuck (JT), and Chet Bromley.

Adjustment to the agenda

LK add Global Net and the school tower.

Oct. meeting minutes not approved due to Jen Rafferty not being present and LK not able to second since she was not present at Oct. meeting.

Superintendent's Report

BB reported that questions have been raised about the multiple telecommunications services being billed to districts and the SU. E-rate consultant to prepare a brief summary of the current GISU telecommunication services.

BB reported under Curriculum, Assesment, and Instruction:

The ACT 230 Grant of \$6,500 to help the district bring a team to the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Conference at Killington next summer has been awarded.

Our "Innovation Grant" to support our work with students via Google Tools for Schools to create Personal Learning Plans has passed the initial phases of approval.

The focus of our professional learning in October has been the work with Elizabeth Moore exploring our new Reading Units of Study K-5.

A goal this year to formalize the curriculum framework across all subjects and grades is off to a good start with representation from all schools and grade levels. Work on curriculum framework will continue through the year and be completed by July 1.

Our Oct. 30th in-service day featured Charlie Appelstein – "There's No Such Thing As a Bad Kid" addressing proactive responses to students with challenges, and Kristin Gehsmann "Words Their Way, a Developmental Language Program for teachers K-5. This training was requested by our teachers last year.

The formation of a GISU data team with the objective for this team to build capacity and sustainability with data systems, inclusive of data collection and reflecting on data to inform our practices.

BB reported that ACT 77 the Flexible Pathways bill was signed on June 6, 2013. This provides for expansion of the existing Statewide Dual Enrollment Program, expansion of Early College Programs, Increased access to work-based learning, increased virtual/blended learning opportunities, increased access to Career and Tech. Education (CTE), and implementation of Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) – currently, all 7th graders in the GISU must be implementing PLPs, and we have embarked on this work in the schools.

We are gearing up for year two od Smarter Balanced Assessments.

BB reported that Beth Hemingway, Special Ed. Director, has been selected by the National SWIFT Center to serve as member of the national task force and leaves for the University of Kansas on Nov. 2, 2015 to begin her service. The Special Education Service plan for the GISU has been submitted and represents a decrease in spending for FY17 of \$253,024 or 7.44%.

BB reported that the Auditors were in the Central Office for two weeks in mid Oct. and final numbers should be available soon.

The FY 17 budget work is continuing and is creating spreadsheets to be used for not only budgeting purposes but also for negotiations.

Our FY 15 federal grants and processes were approved by the AoE meaning we can now get the remaining FY 15 funds that were outstanding and we can submit FY 16 reports for reimbursement.

The AoE decided to open up our FY 16 federal funds and is giving us a 15% advance on those funds.

All payroll reports, 941's and quarterly reports were submitted on time at the end of Oct.

Oct. 31st is the end of the first trimester for special ed. expenditures so these will be worked on and are due Nov. 15.

We are waiting for the ACT 45 financial models to assist us in addressing and answering "virtual" budgeting questions and concerns.

We continue to process all financial reports necessary for board meetings.

Principal's Report

TT reported Pre-K is going well and next year parents of Pre-K will have a choice of where they would like their child to go to for Pre-K. K & 1 are going well – teachers need time to plan. Math, which Mrs. Walker is very good at, has 2nd & 3rd grade together and 4,5,& 6 together. Mr. Fish is doing Social Studies & Science with classes split the same as in math. We have an increase in the number of students on an IEP. TT is also trying to develop team leaders – Ms. Frank, Ms. Cobb, Mr. Fish, and Ms. Walker. Ms. Larvey is Ms. Larvey – GREAT! Chef Lisa is preparing a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner for the school and some community members are planning on attending.

K – 6 went on a bus to see the UVM Women's basketball team play, which was a great experience for all. The winter ski trips, totaling 5, need funding to cover the transportation costs of \$1,500 for ILM students. Previously this was funded by the Grace Program. Parents of students are now looking into ways to fund this program. The Literacy Grant will receive payment of \$2,110 for invoices submitted. Part of the 5 – year Maintenance Plan is to have a safety audit done. Our insurance company performed a safety audit which found the playground to be in an unsafe condition and should be removed. Through the insurance company there is a good chance that we could receive a \$7,500 - \$10,000 grant to help finance the replacement of the playground. LK stated that we should allow the Maintenance Committee to move forward with making the playground safe by removal of it. The multi-purpose room will be painted starting tomorrow. The ILM Public Library will find \$400 for painting supplies.

Board Discussion

BH reported that the case load for our school special educator is equal to a full time special educator, therefore to support our special educator a multi-tiered systems of support academic behavioral interventionist will be hired. This will be covered by a block grant since the new hire will work with all students. After January the number of students being served in special education will increase. This will all fall within our budget. A Speech & Language assistant will be spending more time here do to

fluctuation in students. A EEE teacher will be working in the school with Pre-K students and the teacher. This will be paid through federal funds.

FY16 Budget to Actuals

LC reviewed ILM budget to actuals and presented a report pointing out several lines in the report which needed clarification; Pre-K supplies, summer school program, guidance services, operation/maintenance of plant, and food program. The audit is done and the Isle La Motte FY 15 DRAFT audited general fund balance is \$69,638. This is questioned by the Board. LC will review audit when it arrives and verify general fund balance.

A discussion took place regarding the procedure for substitute pay because there is a time lag between when the substitutes work and when they receive payment. A procedure to have a board member ratify the substitute pay warrant was discussed along with the timing of getting the paperwork before the actual check must be signed.

The formation of a Committee for Primary School Options was discussed as a result of a March 2015 vote. An article will be placed in the Islander and on FPF looking for volunteers to serve on the committee, and a notice of this will go home to parents in the students weekly folders.

Board Actions

Global Net is interested in renting space on the ILM School tower located at the ILM Fire Dept. LK was given approval to contact and negotiate an agreement with Global Net. BC motioned, LK seconded, approved.

LK motioned, BC seconded, to have a Committee for Primary School Options be formed. Unanimously approved.

LK motioned, BC seconded, to approve Substitute pay warrant of \$262.50.

BC motion to Approval of the payables of \$117,668.55. 2nd LK. All in favor.

LK Motion to approve hiring of MTSS interventionist. BC seconded. Approved.

LK Motion to Adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Barbara N. Callahan



Louise Koss



Barbara N. Callahan

Jennifer Raferty