

GRAND ISLE SUPERVISORY UNION

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802-372-6921 • P.O. BOX 54, GRAND ISLE, VT 05458 • WWW.GISU.ORG

17 March 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians & Community members,

As you know, I've been having conversations with different stakeholders and have shared that GISU is committed to returning as many students as possible to as much in-person learning as possible while keeping students, faculty, staff, and the community safe. We do this by following the Vermont Department of Health and Vermont Agency of Education Guidelines. **The number one limiting guideline which currently holds us back from having more students participating in-person learning is spacing guidelines.** We have had the maximum number of students back that the guidelines allow since the distancing guideline was reduced from 6 feet for all students to 3 feet for students in grades k-6.

Over the last couple of weeks I've devoted the Weekly Community Meeting Time to hearing from the community about this important topic. I'll do so again this week and next week. So far, feedback from the community has been pretty light and I'd love to have more feedback from parents. **Please keep in mind it is not possible to make any changes unless and until the VDH and VT AOE guidelines change.**

Another important thing the GISU is working on is a proficiency based report card. At our February 3, 2021 Community Meeting, [Megan Grube the GISU Curriculum Director shared a proficiency grading presentation.](#) Our new report card is a proficiency based report card and tells about the most important learning for a grade and the students most recent progress. This is different from averaging across multiple assignments. Think of this like your driver's test; your successful parallel parking on with the test instructor is what counts; it doesn't matter if you had 20 or 200 unsuccessful practice attempts with your driver's education instructor. [Please see this letter for more information.](#) We will devote the March 31, 2021 Community Meeting to getting feedback about the GISU new report card.

Community Meeting

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

The link and telephone number for this week's community meeting are below. I plan to talk about vaccinations, guidelines, and implications of possibly changing our education model. There will be a time in the meeting for community members to share their perspective and hopes, as well as to ask questions.

[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/yzd-szwo-tqi

[Join by phone](#)

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Thank you for working with us to support the GISU mission to ensure all members of the Grand Isle Supervisory Union Learning Community are curious, creative, courageous, and capable of pursuing their aspirations in a diverse and ever-changing world.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Clark

Michael J. Clark
Grand Isle Supervisory Union
Superintendent