

# Grand Isle Supervisory Union

## School Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

### Minutes

**Board Present:** Brad Blanchette, Bob Chutter, Tim Maxham, Whitney Maxham, Whitney Doremus, Sylvia Jensen (joined at 7 pm)

**Admin Present:** Michael Clark, Rob Gess, Megan Grube, Nick DeVita, Dave Brisson

**Public Present:** LCATV

#### Call to Order

1. Call to Order and Introductions - Brad Blanchette called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.
2. Adjust the Agenda - Michael Clark added the VEHI & VSBIT proxy to the agenda under other
3. Citizens and/or Staff to be Heard - none
4. Consent Agenda
  - i. Approve the minutes from 8/23/2022 - Tim Maxham motions to approve the minutes as presented, Bob Chutter seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
  - ii. Resignation - Kristal Gomez - payroll - this is a non-licensed position - Michael Clark informed the board of the resignation.

#### Reports

5. Financial - Rob Gess shared the budget to actuals provided in the packet and outlined the impacts of the report reading due to the new chart of accounts implemented. Rob updated the board on payroll coverage and the number of candidates that have applied to the open position. He also shared the grants reimbursement progress and the timeline for the FY24 budget preparation. Tim Maxham motions that the board has received and reviewed the budget to actuals for fiscal year 23 dated September 21, 2022, Bob Chutter seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

Superintendent & Team Report - Michael Clark shared that this afternoon a letter was sent to the agency of education indicating we would not meet the September 30 deadline for the FY21 audit. Discussion took place around the impacts on the potential cash flow challenges should sanctions be taken on grant reimbursements. On a more positive note, Michael highlighted the progress made towards the goals outlined in the written report. Brad Blanchette commended Michael Clark on the structure of the superintendent report and how that links into tracking goals and superintendent evaluations.

#### Board Business.

6. Summer Programming Report - Megan Grube shared the [presentation](#) on information from the summer program in the summer of 2022. 230 (43%) of GISU students taking advantage of the summer programming opportunities. Megan highlighted that there was a great amount of programs able to be offered! Discussion took place around how to get more students involved next year. The board commended the team on the work completed. Discussion also took place around the sustainability of the programming after ESSER funds are no longer available. The suggestion was made about perhaps partnering with local town rec programs.

7. Lincoln School District Letter - Brad Blanchette indicated that letters were received from the Lincoln School District. Michael Clark indicated that Lincoln sent the same letter out to multiple SUs and there is no representation from Lincoln present at today's meeting. Michael highlighted some of the reasons outlined in his letter that this is not a good situation for the GISU. The Board indicated that they agreed that it is not beneficial to the GISU to take on another district that is over 50 miles and 2 counties away.

Bob Chutter motioned to direct the Superintendent to share with the state board agency at its meeting September 28, 2022 that the GISU board does not support the inclusion of Lincoln School District in the GISU as the board believes it would be detrimental to how the GISU operates and would negate that progress the GISU has made over the years, Tim Maxham seconds. Discussion took place around the practicality of Lincoln joining the GISU and the strain on resources. Sylvia Jensen asked if the state board of education can force the GISU to accept Lincoln SD. Bob Chutter called the question, Brad Blanchette second, vote on calling the question - yes unanimously. All in favor, motion passes.

8. Central Office Restructuring - Michael Clark shared a proposal on restructuring the office based on the resignation. This included addressing challenges of turnover and cross training. He highlighted that there are opportunities around the medicaid clerk position. Michael reviewed the different options for reorganization and indicated the revenue from the experienced Medicaid Clerk would fund any of the options. Brad Blanchette motions to use unanticipated Medicaid fund reimbursements to fund the central office restructuring, Whitney Maxham seconds. Discussion took place around budget impacts and that it would be budget neutral and would be worth a try. Discussion also took place around having cross training so that positions are not "one deep" to allow seamless operation if down a team member. All in favor, motion passes.

9. EEE Structure - Michael Clark shared there is currently have a .6 FTE position for support of the EEE program. There is also a 1.0 FTE position that is currently vacant housed in Alburgh. There is a limited amount of EEE students. The current .6 FTE employee is willing to go up to .8 FTE to assist with services in Alburgh. The 1.0 FTE would remain open to applicants. Based on potential hire date, the FTEs would not increase overall. Sylvia Jenses motions to support the .6 FTE position based out of South Hero to a .8 FTE position to support Alburgh once per week for the 2022-2023 school year, Bob Chutter seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

10. Business Manager hiring - Michael Clark reviewed the discussion that took place during the August meeting around the board supporting posing the business manager internally. Michael indicated he anticipated one internal candidate and being able to bring that candidate to the meeting to meet with the board in executive session this month for the board to then take action on. There were two internal candidates, which changes the process. Michael indicated under statute, the superintendent has the authority to hire the position as it is non-licensed, however he understands that the two positions that work closest with the board are the superintendent and business manager. Bob Chutter suggested Michael Clark be in charge of the hiring committee and open it up to a couple (up to four) board members and follow the regular statutory process for hiring non-licensed employees. Brad Blanchette agrees. The board came to consensus.

11. Other - VEHI & VSBIT proxy - Bob Chutter motions for Michael Inners to be the GISU proxy at the VEHI and VSBIT annual meeting, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

### **Closure**

12. Setting the next agenda - FY24 budget, iReady data around reading and mathematics, business manager candidate

13. Adjourn - Bob Chutter motions to adjourn, Whitney Maxham seconds, all in favor, motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 8:32 p.m.