

Champlain Islands Unified Union School District
Special Meeting
Tuesday, May 23, 2023
Minutes

Board Present: Michael Inners, Brad Blanchette, Sylvia Jensen

Admin Present: Superintendent Michael Clark, Ashley Hanlon, Amanda Ellison

Public Present: LCATV

Call to Order

1. **Call to Order** - Michael Inners called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm
2. **Citizens and/or Staff to be heard**

Board Business

3. **Staffing Proposal**

Ashley Hanlon and Amanda Ellison discussed their proposal. The written proposal/letter is attached for review.

Brad Blanchette motioned to accept the proposal laid out by Amanda Ellison and Ashley Hanlon. All in favor, the motion was carried unanimously.

Closure

4. **Adjourn** - Michael Inners motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 pm. All in favor, Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Submitted by GISU Assistant, Andrea Santiago

CIUUSD

Champlain Islands Unified Union School District

Grand Isle School Isle La Motte School North Hero School

May 19, 2023

Dear CIUUSD School Board,

We are writing to request that the board keep the positions identified in the CIUUSD budget as it was proposed and passed this year.

For background, during the 2021-2022 school year, Interventionist Kate Merola asked the Board to grant her a one-year leave of absence (for SY 2022-2023) so she could be home with her two small children. At that time, the board weighed its options and decided that granting Kate this leave benefited her and her family. At that time, the Board had two options: 1) fill Kate's position with a one-year contract or 2) fill Kate's position with a permanent 1.0 FTE contract. The Board decided to fill Kate's leave with a permanent 1.0 FTE contract, not the one-year option. Our understanding was that the board offered this position with the assumption that over time there would be natural attrition, and they would not need to fill one vacated position in the future.

Looking towards the 2023-2024 school year and as we developed the FY24 budget, the Board, the principals, and the Superintendent were unaware of any teachers planning to leave and therefore proposed a budget that includes both Kate Merola's position and the 1.0 FTE position added when Kate took her leave.

Last week we received one resignation and one retirement from teachers serving in grades K-2 at the North Hero School. After reviewing the hiring options, we ask the board to consider keeping the proposed and passed budget as is and allow CIUUSD to hire two new teachers to fill the vacancies at the North Hero School. Grand Isle School continues to see increased enrollment in the K-3 classrooms and increased levels of need. While Grand Isle School recognizes this is not unique to CIUUSD, early interventions for academic, social, emotional, and behavioral skill development support learners during a critical developmental time. By keeping classrooms small, we can provide appropriate levels of support and small-group instruction that meets the needs of all learners. If this request is granted, the plan will be to schedule two teachers/classrooms for each grade level from K-2 at the Grand Isle School.

Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to supporting our CIUUSD learners to become curious, creative, courageous, and capable of pursuing their aspirations in a diverse and ever-changing world!

Amanda Ellison
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CIUUSD

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Grand Isle School Isle La Motte School North Hero School

Grand Isle School Licensed Staff Assignments

Grade	Teacher(s)	Projected Student Enrollment
K	Aaron Dickie Alex Lovejoy	16 (we are anticipating enrollment to be over 19 students)
1	Hannah Skibiski Katie Young	21
2	Tracy Pearson Veronica McMorrow	24
3	Kendre Guinane	16
4	Katelyn Peat	18
5	Sarah Allen Morgan Mahar	26
6	Sarah Allen Morgan Mahar	16
Literacy Interventionist	Kate Merola	28 students served
Math Interventionist	Rachel Gammal	35 students served

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North Hero School Licensed Staff Assignments

Grade	Teacher(s)	Projected Student Enrollment
PK	Chelsea French	~11 (new enrollments pending)
K*	TBD	4
1-2*	TBD	10
3-4	Megan Walker	12
5-6	Lucy Thomas	11

*The plan is to make K-2 a combined classroom in SY 23-24 with two co-teachers

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