

Ithaca, Michigan
September 18, 2019

The regular meeting of the Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District (RES D) was held at Forest Hill Nature Area, 11297 N. Rich Rd., Alma, Michigan on Wednesday, September 18, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board of Education President Dr. Timm Thorsen. Members present were: Dr. Cheri Booth, Bill Henderson, Matthew Showalter, Don Schurr, Tom Steere, Timm Thorsen. Member absent: Cathy Hungerford. Also present were Dr. Jan Amsterburg, Superintendent; Wendy Giles, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; Martin Combs, Associate Superintendent for Special Services; Kevin Kolb, Associate Superintendent for Finance; Matt McMahon, Associate Superintendent for Technology; Doug Bush, Associate Superintendent for CTE; Kim Onstott, Program Director.

Also present was Erika Kemler, Director of Forest Hill Nature Area.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2019 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Don Schurr and supported by Tom Steere to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Financial Statements and Claims in the amount of \$2,404,083.46 for the month of August were presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Dr. Booth that the financial statements and claims be approved as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Employment contracts were presented for Deborah Sweebe and Kiley Kochensparger, Career Navigators (\$45,000) and Leah Hazen, School Social Worker to go from .75 to full time. A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Don Schurr to approve the employment contracts as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Per the salary committee recommendation, a motion was made by Bill Henderson and supported by Tom Steere to increase Kim Onstott's salary \$8,000.00 beginning July 1, 2019. Motion carried 6-0.

An out of state travel request was presented for Martin Combs, Associate Superintendent for Special Services, to attend the Beyond Consequences 2019 Fall Trauma Informed School Conference, November 12-13, 2019 at the Westin, Westminster, Colorado. Estimated expenses for the conference is \$2,000. A motion was made by Tom Steere and supported by Dr. Booth to approve the travel request of Mr. Combs as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

NEOLA Policy Recommendations 2112, 2261, 2261.01, 1130, 3110, and 4110 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Bill Henderson to approve the NEOLA Policy Recommendation as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Under the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Amsterburg, reported on the following:

- Wind Taxation Meeting with surrounding ISDs
- Isabella County MARSP
- Old generator pad is being removed
- Saginaw Chippewa Tribe meeting on grants
- Day Dreams performance
- Re-stripping of the parking lots in Ithaca
- Purchase of new lawn mower
- Fall Special Education classroom tours

Discussion was held on the Headlee Override Ballot proposal and after discussion a motion was made by Bill Henderson and supported by Don Schurr to move the ballot proposal to March 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Henderson provided an update on PRIME (Partnership Response in Manufacturing Education) Launch in our local school districts. PRIME provides assistance to schools with CTE programs particularly in manufacturing.

Tom Steere provided an update on LINKS. Eight-nine students and chaperones arrive on Tuesday, September 24. Lots of activities planned for another great visit.

Director's reports were given. Matt McMahon, Associate Superintendent for Technology, apprised board members that everything seems to be going along well in the technology department.

Kim Onstott, Program Director, highlighted 2020 Going Pro Talent Fund, MiCareer Quest Middle Michigan, Michigan Works! Annual Conference, and interviews for the Business Resource Network Manager.

Kevin Kolb Associate Superintendent for Finance, reported the financial software implementation has begun.

Marty Combs, Associate Superintendent for Special Services, gave an update on the theatrical performance using augmentative and alternative communication, MI-POWER, and Winding Brook Conference Centre facility updates (installation of cabinets and countertops and outdoor patio concrete repairs and painting).

Doug Bush, Associate Superintendent for Career Technical Education provided an update on meeting with Mt. Pleasant Schools and Mid Michigan College regarding welding options, Marshall Plan update, Career Navigation, and the Mt. Pleasant campus added CADD as another CTE program option.

Erika Kemler, FHNA Director, distributed honey made from the hives at FHNA by the Middle of the Mitten Beekeepers Association, gave a brief overview on new activities at FHNA, announced over 3,600 students visited the nature center last year and had a taste of nature activity.

Being no further business before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Bill Henderson. President Thorsen adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Dr. Timm Thorsen, President

Tom Steere, Secretary