

Ithaca, Michigan  
October 22, 2019

The rescheduled regular meeting of the Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District (RESA) was held at Winding Brook Conference Centre on Wednesday, October 22, 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, Cathy Hungerford, Don Schurr, Matthew Showalter, Tom Steere, Dr. Timm Thorsen. 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; Dr. Kathy Peasley, Associate Superintendent for Instruction; Kim Onstott, Employment Programs Administrator; Matt McMahon, Associate Superintendent for Technology; Doug Bush, Associate Superintendent for CTE.

Visitors present included Jessica Truax and Ronda Green, Interpreter's; Kiley Kochensparger and Deb Sweebe, Career Navigators; Erin Ulrich, School Psychologist; and Bill Hirschman, Auditor, Roslund, Prestage & Co., P.C. presenting the 2018-19 Financial Audit.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 18, 2019 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Tom Steere to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Financial Statements and Claims for the month of September were presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Don Schurr and supported by Bill Henderson that the Financial Statements and Claims in the amount of \$2,424,605.76 be approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Bill Hirschman, Roslund Prestage and Company, presented the 2018-2019 financial audit for GIRESD and MMNET. After discussion, a motion was made by Tom Steere and supported by Cheri Booth to place the audit on file as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

An employment contract was presented for Bret Hyble, Business Resource Navigator at an annual salary of \$61,000. A motion was made by Bill Henderson and supported by Don Schurr to approve the employment contract for Bret Hyble as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Betsy Wiles, Occupational Therapist, submitted a request to extend her current FMLA through January 31, 2020. A motion was made by Cheri Booth and supported by Matthew Showalter to approve the leave request of Betsy Wiles as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

The salary committee presented recommendations to increase the interpreters and interveners .75/per hour and add longevity language to 15 years - \$1,100; 20 years - \$1,900; 25 years - \$2,700 retroactive to July 1, 2019. A motion was made by Don Schurr and supported by Dr. Cheri Booth to approve the above salary committee recommendations as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Tom Steere to approve an out of state travel request for Dr. Cheri Booth to attend the AESA Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ, December 4 -7, 2019. Motion carried 7-0.

A lease agreement was presented between Gratiot-Isabella RESD and Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works Consortium (County of Saginaw) for our GTEC facility, 327 E. Center Street, Alma, Lots 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of Block 24. Per the October 1, 2019 Single-Tenant Facility, rent is \$120,264.00 annually. A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Dr. Booth to approve the lease agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Information on the Restoration of Headlee Reduction Proposition was presented. After discussion, a motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Bill Henderson. In a roll call vote, all members voted unanimously in favor of the resolution.

Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, Michigan (the "Intermediate School District")

A rescheduled regular meeting of the board of education of the Intermediate School District (the "Board") was held in the Winding Brook Conference Centre, within the boundaries of the Intermediate School District, on the 22nd day of October, 2019, at 5 o'clock in the p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Timm Thorsen, President.

Present: Members Booth, Henderson, Hungerford, Schurr, Showalter, Steere, Thorsen

Absent: Members

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Matthew Showalter and supported by Member Bill Henderson:

**WHEREAS:**

1. This Board intends to submit a proposition at a special election to be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020.

2. On or before 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17, 2019, the Board shall certify any ballot proposition to be submitted to the voters at such election to the election coordinator or coordinators designated to conduct elections within the District (the "Election Coordinator").

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. A special election of the electors of the District be called and held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020.

2. The proposition to be voted on at the special election shall be stated on the ballots in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit A.

3. The Election Coordinator is requested to:

a. Utilize the Morning Sun, a newspaper published or of general circulation within the District, for publication of notices in accordance with the election law requirements.

b. Utilize ballot proposition summary information, as prepared by legal counsel, in the forms of the notices of last day of registration and election in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto.

c. Provide a proof copy of the ballot to the District and its legal counsel in sufficient time to allow the ballot to be proofread prior to printing.


4. The Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this resolution with the Election Coordinator and with any Election Clerk or clerks designated to conduct elections within the District by 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, December 17, 2019.

5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Ayes: Members Booth, Henderson, Hungerford, Schurr, Showalter, Steere,  
Thorsen

Nays: Members

Resolution declared adopted.

  
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Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a rescheduled regular meeting held on October 22, 2019, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Meetings Act" (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).

  
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Secretary, Board of Education

CJI/lma

**EXHIBIT A**

**GRATIOT-ISABELLA REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT  
SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL  
(RESTORATION OF HEADLEE REDUCTION)**

This proposal requests additional millage to restore the intermediate school district's levy for special education to the level previously approved by the electors.

Shall the current charter limitation on the annual property tax rate for the education of students with a disability in Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, Michigan, be increased by 0.1655 mill (\$0.1655 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2020 to 2029, inclusive (this increase will restore the intermediate school district's levy to the rate of 4.2 mills previously approved by the electors that has been reduced as required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963); the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2020 is approximately \$473,852 from local property taxes authorized herein?

**EXHIBIT B**

**SUMMARY OF BALLOT PROPOSITION TO BE INSERTED IN THE  
NOTICES OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTION:**

**GRATIOT-ISABELLA REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT  
SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL  
(RESTORATION OF HEADLEE REDUCTION)  
0.1655 MILL FOR 10 YEARS**

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, 1131 East Center Street, P.O. Box 310, Ithaca, Michigan 48847-0310, telephone: (989) 875-5101.

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

- Drawing was held for our old lawn mower – Ashley Schools was the winner
- Positive feedback on the new wind brochure
- LINKS – student(s) alcohol issue
- Gratiot County Optimist donations to FHNA
- Lunch with the new Ithaca Superintendent
- Open House at SET SEG to showcase their new buildings

The Lobbyist was not available for the scheduled call-in.

Kevin Kolb presented NEOLA policy considerations for review on PA 25 Annual Report; Employment of Professional Staff and Substitutes; Assignment and Transfer; Interrogation of Students; Emergency Removal, Suspension and Expulsion of Students; Due Process Rights.

Director's reports were given. Doug Bush, Associate Superintendent for Career Technical Education, referred to Kiley Kochensparger and Deb Sweebe, the new Career Navigators for his update. They presented information on the Michigan Career Development Model Overview and recommended activities by target and the Michigan Career Development Model Support Menu: Career Awareness (Grades K-6).

Dr. Kathy Peasley, Associate Superintendent for Instruction, provided an update on the upcoming visit from Linda Forward, MDE – Senior Executive Policy Advisor; 31n; regional professional development day on November 5; APEX Wind Energy Workshop.

Kim Onstott, Employment Programs Administrator, discussed core services provided in Gratiot and Isabella Michigan Works! facilities including intensive services for individuals who meet eligibility requirements/enrolled/money spent, unemployment rates, Going Pro applications deadline, GM Strike and effect on local communities, spotlight on local business Aircraft Precision Products, Inc. and a client success story.

Matt McMahon, Associate Superintendent for Technology, briefed the board on the SAN, back-up system, cyber security guide, and the MAED's conference.

Kevin Kolb, Associate Superintendent for Finance, updated the board on the financial software implementation – customizing the new software to meet our needs and actual software training will begin in January 2020. He is also in conversations with Vestaburg Schools coming onboard.

Marty Combs, Associate Superintendent for Special Services, highlighted the latest Special Education Board Report newsletter on supporting students with complex communication needs, MI Power and participation in the Alma High School homecoming dance.

Being no further business before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Tom Steere. President Dr. Timm Thorsen adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

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Dr. Timm Thorsen, President

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Thomas Steere, Secretary