

Shepherd, Michigan
May 13, 2020

The rescheduled regular meeting of the Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District (RESA) was held at Winding Brook Conference Centre in Shepherd and via ZOOM, on Wednesday, May 13, 2020. 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; Marty Combs, Associate Superintendent for Special Services; Dr. Kathleen Peasley, Associate Superintendent for Instruction; Matt McMahon, Associate Superintendent for Technology; Kevin Kolb, Associate Superintendent for Finance; Kim Onstott, Employment Programs Administrator; Doug Bush, Associate Superintendent for CTE

There were no visitors present.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 18, 2020 were presented for approval. (The April 15, 2020 meeting was canceled due to COVID-19.) A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Don Schurr to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of March 18, 2020 as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Financial Statements and Claims for the months of March and April were presented and reviewed. Claims for the month of March were presented in the amount of \$2,299,594.09 and April were presented in the amount of \$1,912,651.65. A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Tom Steere to approve the financial statements and claims as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

The 5-year lease agreement for the Mt. Pleasant Michigan Works building will expire on September 30, 2020 with Lone Maple Development. Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works is requesting we extend the lease with Lone Maple Development for one more year under the same provisions provided in the current lease agreement. A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Cathy Hungerford to approve the one-year lease extension as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Tom Steere and supported by Bill Henderson to purchase Munetrix, a cloud-based tool for school districts to use for meeting financial transparency data requirements and instructional requirements for the RESA and our local school districts. The cost for 2020-2021 is \$20,686 for the financial portion and \$15,142.50 for the academic portion. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Dr. Booth and supported by Matthew Showalter to approve Sheryle Dixon from Alma Public Schools and Tom Richter from Ithaca Public Schools to serve on the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). Motion carried 7-0.

The following resolution was adopted giving Superintendent Amsterburg the authority to sign/execute all of the closing paperwork on the home in Mt. Pleasant constructed by the CTE program.

RESOLUTION

Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, Gratiot County, Michigan

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of said District was held at the Winding Brook Conference Centre, 8240 S. Genuine Rd., Shepherd, in said District on May 13, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

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

Present: Dr. Cheri Booth, Bill Henderson, Cathy Hungerford, Don Schurr, Matthew Showalter, Tom Steere, Dr. Timm Thorsen

Absent:

The following resolution was offered by member Matthew Showalter and supported by member Tom Steere.

Be it resolved that:

1. The Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, Gratiot County, Michigan, does hereby ratify and confirm execution of the Purchase Agreement by Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, a Michigan Municipal Corporation, as Seller, and Amy Rose Keuchenmeister and Kevin John Malinowski, husband and wife, as Purchasers, for the sale and purchase of the following described real estate together with improvements thereon, commonly known as 1516 Batson Place, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858:

EASTPOINTE IV SITE CONDOMINIUMS UNIT 10 OF THE CITY OF MT.
PLEASANT RECORDED 12/29/2006 IN L1377 P773-818 ISABELLA COUNTY
REGISTER OF DEEDS.

2. DR. JAN AMSTERBURG, Superintendent, of Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, Gratiot County, Michigan, is hereby authorized to execute any and all deeds or documents necessary to complete said sale and purchase.

AYES: Dr. Cheri Booth, Bill Henderson, Cathy Hungerford, Don Schurr, Matthew Showalter, Tom Steere, Dr. Timm Thorsen

NAYES:

Motion declared **adopted**.

Dr. Timm Thorsen, President, Board of Education
Gratiot-Isabella RESD

Added to the Agenda was a request to submit the Arts in Residency Grant for 2020-2021 for \$20,000. This is the RESD's 7th year of the program. A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Tom Steere to approve the submission of the Arts in Residency Grant for 2020-2021 as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Dr. Booth and supported by Matthew Showalter to approve adding academic year 2024-2025 to the Common Calendar. Motion carried 7-0.



Gratiot-Isabella RESD Common Calendar Agreement

1. Start date for students – Tuesday after Labor Day in local districts and for center programs (unless a waiver has been granted for an earlier start date).
2. The following days are customarily recognized and observed as holidays: Memorial Day; Labor Day; Thanksgiving; day after Thanksgiving; Good Friday; and the Friday before Labor Day.
3. Winter (Holiday) Break and Spring Break dates shall be determined in accordance with the following schedule. Districts may add dates on either end of the established calendar. Parents are reminded to check with their respective districts.

2019-2020	
RESD – Wide PD Day	November 5
Winter Break	December 24 – January 3
Spring Break	March 30 – April 3
2020-2021	
RESD – Wide PD Day	November 3
Winter Break	December 24 – January 3
Spring Break	March 29 - April 2
2021-2022	
RESD – Wide PD Day	November 2
Winter Break	December 23 – December 31
Spring Break	March 28 – April 1
2022-2023	
RESD – Wide PD Day	November 8
Winter Break	December 23 – January 2
Spring Break	March 27 - 31
2023-2024	
RESD – Wide PD Day	November 7
Winter Break	December 22 – January 1
Spring Break	March 25 – 29
2024 – 2025	
RESD – Wide PD Day	November 5
Winter Break	December 23 – January 1
Spring Break	March 24-28

A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Bill Henderson to approve NEOLA Policy considerations: 1420/3220 -School Administrator/Professional Staff Evaluation; 2410 – Prohibition of Referral or Assistance; 2414 – Reproductive Health and Family Planning; 2418- Sex Education; 8462 – Student Abuse and Neglect. Motion carried 7-0.

The Superintendent Evaluation was moved to the end of the agenda.

Added to the Agenda was the Merit 3-year internet contract for \$20,700. A motion was made by Tom Steere and supported by Dr. Booth to approve the Merit internet contract as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Under the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Amsterburg addressed board members on the following:

- Wind Turbine Tax information
- Boardworks update
- CTE program in Mt. Pleasant is making facemasks with their 3D printer
- Providing support to some families with Dean Transportation child care money
- MASB Sound Board series
- Dean Transportation, Letter of Understanding, still being negotiated
- MEP investigation update
- FHNA presentation moved to the fall
- School Finance update
- Continuity of Learning plans

Under Discussion Items, Kevin Kolb, Associate Superintendent for Finance, presented the 2020-2021 General Fund Budget.

Superintendent Amsterburg has been in contact with Rick Diebold of MASB to discuss Strategic Planning. More information will be presented at the June meeting.

Kim Onstott, Employment Programs Administrator, provided an update with re-opening the Michigan Works offices in Gratiot and Isabella County and an unemployment update.

Dr. Peasley, Associate Superintendent for Instruction, gave her instruction update on our data warehouse software (Munetrix, Illuminate, etc.) and their contract renewals; Marshall plan folks are working in the instruction department on distance learning; federal CARE money will allow for the purchase of Boardworks in our local districts and instruction department staff are engaging in professional development courses to support teachers on how to provide on-line learning.

Doug Bush, Associate Superintendent for CTE, discussed end of year reporting requirements; CTE distance learning labs; next year 61A1 added cost funds to be the same amount as this year; Gratiot County Herald article on Avalon Tahoe receiving the business education partnership award.

Marty Combs, Associate Superintendent for Special Services, gave his special services update on his departments Continuity of Learning and Contingency Learning plans and on-line learning opportunities to collect and share.

Matt McMahon, Associate Superintendent for Technology, reported on device survey's, the new back-up server is installed and working, and a Power School update.

Kevin Kolb, Associate Superintendent for Finance, announced health insurance costs for the RESD employees is down about 2% so they will pay less for the 2020-2021 school year. Lots of uncertainty in school finance right now but upcoming dates to watch for:

May 15 – Consensus Revenue Conference

May 18 – MSBO Joint ISD Finance Committee with Senate and House Fiscal Agency

May 22 – Local Business Managers working on parameters to build multiple budgets

May 30 – The Governor wants to announce the prorated amount for schools for 2019-20

A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Dr. Cheri Booth to go into closed session to complete the superintendent's evaluation. In a roll call vote, all members voted yes to commence an executive session of the Board of Education. The Board approved the position at 6:56 p.m. Board President Dr. Timm Thorsen reconvened the regular session of the board at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Dr. Booth to place Superintendent Amsterburg's evaluation on file and have the Board President sign on behalf of the board. Motion carried 7-0.

Being no further business before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Matthew Showalter and supported by Tom Steere. President Thorsen adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Thomas Steere, Secretary

Dr. Timm Thorsen, President