

Ithaca, Michigan
October 21, 2020

The regular meeting of the Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District (RES D) was held at Winding Brook Conference Centre on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board of Education President Dr. Timm Thorsen. Members present were: Bill Henderson, Cathy Hungerford, Don Schurr, Tom Steere, Dr. Timm Thorsen. Members absent: Dr. Cheri Booth and Matthew Showalter. 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; Kim Onstott, Employment Programs Administrator; Matt McMahon, Associate Superintendent for Technology; Doug Bush, Associate Superintendent for CTE.

Under Visitors and Public Comment, Bill Hirschman, Auditor, Roslund, Prestage & Co., P.C. was in attendance to present the 2019-2020 Financial Audit.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 16, 2020 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Bill Henderson and supported by Cathy Hungerford to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Financial Statements and Claims for the month of September were presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Tom Steere and supported by Don Schurr that the Financial Statements and Claims in the amount of \$2,060,335.67 be approved as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Bill Hirschman, Roslund Prestage and Company, presented the 2019-2020 financial audit for GIRESD. After discussion, a motion was made by Tom Steere and supported by Bill Henderson to place the audit on file as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

An employment contract was presented for Whitney LaVictor, Career Manager, at an annual salary of \$39,682 and Jessica Truax, Interpreter/Intervener, at an annual salary of \$39,000. A motion was made by Don Schurr and supported by Cathy Hungerford to approve the employment contracts for Whitney LaVictor and Jessica Truax as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

The following Summer Tax Resolution for 2021 was presented.

Annual Summer Tax Resolution

A regular meeting of the board of education of the District (the "Board") was held in the Winding Brook Conference Centre within the boundaries of the District, on the 21st day of October, 2020, at 5:00 o'clock in the p.m. (the "Meeting")

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

Present: Members Bill Henderson, Cathy Hungerford, Don Schurr, Tom Steere, Dr. Timm Thorsen

Absent: Members Dr. Cheri Booth and Matthew Showalter

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Bill Henderson and supported by Member Tom Steere:

WHEREAS, this Board previously adopted a resolution to impose a summer tax levy to collect 100% of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the District and continuing from year-to-year until specifically revoked by the Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board, pursuant to 1976 PA 451, as amended (the Revised School Code), invokes for 2021 its previously adopted ongoing resolution imposing a summer tax levy of all of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the District and continuing from year-to-year until specifically revoked by the Board and requests that each city and/or township in which the District is located collect those summer taxes.

2. The Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to forward to the governing body of each city and/or township in which the District is located a copy of this Board's resolution imposing a summer property tax levy on an ongoing basis and a copy of this resolution requesting that each such city and/or township agree to collect the summer tax levy for 2021 in the amount specified in this resolution. Such forwarding of the resolutions and the request to collect the summer tax levy shall be performed so that they are received by the appropriate governing bodies before January 1, 2021.

3. Pursuant to and in accordance with Section 1613(1) of the Revised School Code, the Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to negotiate on behalf of the District with the governing body of each city and/or township in which the District is located for the reasonable expenses for collection of the District's summer tax levy that the city and/or township may bill under MCL 380.1611 or MCL 380.1612. Any such proposed agreement shall be brought before this Board for its approval or disapproval.

4. 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 Henderson, Hungerford, Schurr, Steere, Thorsen

Nays: Members

Resolution declared adopted.


Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Gratiot-Isabella RESD, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at the Meeting, 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).


Secretary, Board of Education

NEOLA Policy recommendations were presented for approval: 2265 - Child Care Center Staff and Volunteers; 3210 - Staff Ethics; 5230 – Late Arrival and Early Dismissal; 5330.02 – Opioid Antagonists; 6800 – System of Accounting; 7300 Disposition of Real Property; 7440.03 Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems. A motion was made by Bill Henderson and supported by Cathy Hungerford to approve the policy recommendations as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Added to the Agenda was the recommendation to pay ten (10) of our teachers an additional \$25.00 per day for teaching virtual and face to face retroactive to August 31, 2020. After discussion, a motion to approve the additional pay recommendation was made by Bill Henderson and supported by Tom Steere. Motion carried 5-0.

Also added to the Agenda was a leave of absence request from Robert Wyse, School Psychologist, for the 2020-2021 school year. A motion was made by Tom Steere and supported by Cathy Hungerford to approve the leave of absence request. Motion carried 5-0.

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

- Appreciation letter from Clare-Gladwin RESD to Dr. Peasley
- Correspondence from Thrun Law Firm on MDHHS Emergency Orders
- STEM Award to Amy Hindbaugh-Marr (Ithaca Schools)
- ISDs Tax Revenue Information
- 12,500 more cloth children's masks were delivered today

Our lobbyist was not available for the scheduled call-in but provided a written report for distribution on MIOSHA issued emergency guidance relative to workplace COVID requirements; Senate Bill 1108 public bodies conducting remote meetings; House Bill 5482 suicide prevention hotline information; House Bill 4926-4930 Local Community Stabilization Authority Act; and Senate Bill 432 amending the Michigan Strategic Fund Act.

Kevin Kolb presented NEOLA policy considerations for review on Budget Preparation; Curriculum Development; Approved Courses; Homebound Instruction Program; Attendance; School Calendar and Attendance.

Director's reports were given. Kim Onstott, Employment Programs Administrator, discussed COVID updates to the service centers; unemployment rates through August, upcoming job fairs and Going PRO Talent Fund.

Matt McMahon, Associate Superintendent for Technology, briefed the board on recent internet issues and MI-Connect.

Kevin Kolb, Associate Superintendent for Finance, updated the board on Consensus Revenue Estimating Conferences and Medicaid Revenues.

Doug Bush, Associate Superintendent for Career Technical Education, highlighted Xello, Inspire and Career Prepped, GLB Region Career Navigator Network, Marshall Plan Grant report and Amy Hindbaugh-Marr receiving the 2020 STEM Star Award.

Marty Combs, Associate Superintendent for Special Services, highlighted the latest Special Education newsletter with an update on remote teaching and learning, COVID updates, Parent Advisory Committee update, and staffing.

Under "Other", Tom Steere mentioned the LINKS trip that has been scheduled for June 2021 and that a decision whether or not that trip will continue should be made in the next couple of months.

Being no further business before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Bill Henderson and supported by Tom Steere. President Dr. Timm Thorsen adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Dr. Timm Thorsen, President

Thomas Steere, Secretary