



**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (GULF ISLANDS)
HELD WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2011 AT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE**

Present:	May McKenzie	Chairperson
	Bonnie MacGillivray	Vice Chairperson
	Susanne Middleditch	Trustee
	Mike Krayenhoff	Trustee
	Pete Williams	Trustee
	Charles Hingston	Trustee
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Jeff Hopkins	Superintendent of Schools
	Rod Scotvold	Secretary Treasurer
	Linda Underwood	Director of Human Resources
	Sheila Miller	Director of Instruction
	Dawne Fennell	Executive Assistant
	Jack Braak	GITA President
Andy McNish	CUPE President	
Elizabeth Nolan	Driftwood Representative	
Regrets:	Richard Bennett	GIPVPA Representative
	Shelley Lawson	DPAC Representative

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2011 09 14, be adopted with the following additions:

7 (c) Bargaining Update

CARRIED 50/11

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2011 06 08, be approved as presented.

CARRIED 51/11

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Special Board Meeting, Public Session held 2011 06 22, be approved as presented.

CARRIED 52/11

3. BUSINESS ARISING

4. DELEGATIONS

(a) Salt Spring Island Conservancy

Kris Fullbrook, Coordinator for Salt Spring Island Conservancy, spoke to the programs the conservancy offers School District #64 (Gulf Islands) students from the new Kindergarten / Grade one pilot program that began last June to the programs offered over the years to over 700 students in Grades 1 to 8. The 'Stewards in Training' program is almost completely run by volunteers of which they have approximately 150-200 on their data base. It takes about 70 volunteers to run each program and they are always looking for more so they can expand their student programs. Students from the EAGER group and the French Immersion program at GISS have joined the volunteer ranks and this has been very successful. The programs are offered in French to French Immersion students. Buses for transporting students and the coordinator's salary are the main expenses and they receive funding from numerous sources, such as SSI Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, BC Hydro, The Hamber Foundation, Thrifty's, and BC province.

Mr. Hopkins nominated Salt Spring Island Conservancy and the Stewards in Training School Program for the BC School Superintendents Association's Award of Recognition in 2010, which they won. This award is presented each year to an individual or organizations for their contribution to enhance public education.

5. **TRUSTEE'S SCHOOL REPORTS**

- ***Fernwood Elementary School***
Photo day September 20; field trips with conservancy September 26 and October 6; new school secretary, Leah Ashford; whole school participated in Terry Fox run/walk/jog around the school and raised \$100
- ***Fulford Community Elementary School***
First PAC meeting will be held on September 26; school photos October 3; involved in fruit and vegetable program again this year; new Facebook page; school theme this year is 'forests'
- ***Galiano Community School***
First day, students excited to get back to school; happy students and happy teachers; 5 boys and 11 girls in older class; food program – garden is full and lush, every Wednesday seniors take care of garden and make snacks for everyone; gathering of honey from new bee hives tomorrow; starting orchard program at school
- ***Gulf Islands Secondary School***
Lots of students and activity the first week; first PAC meeting Sept. 20; school photos this week; sr. boys and girls volleyball, sr. boys soccer, and swimming starting; date for graduation set for June 9, 2012
- ***Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School***
ESL student attending from Germany; pods have jumped to a new level – every student will have their own individual project and for 10 hours per week they will work on their own individualized learning plan; regular pod activity is still in place as well
- ***Pender Islands Elem./Sec. School***
First day, all went well with water taxi transportation; school assembly – lots of students; a number of students left but more have come in; everything running smoothly; basketball, tennis, choir already running after school; fruit and vegetable program
- ***Phoenix Elementary School***
Looking for anything to help with garden – volunteers, garden tools, etc.; primary class is full; LDP program – lots of students from Duncan; brainstorming session in K/1 class – amazing ideas
- ***Saltspring Island Middle School***
Students participated in the school's annual Terry Fox Run; new Grade 8 class configuration to aid in the eventual transition to GISS; *Tell me About Your Child Conference* Sept. 28
- ***Salt Spring Elementary School***
Trustee Pingle commented on how prepared his daughter Harper was for full day Kindergarten because of her participation in the ELF program; fruit and vegetable program, delivered blueberries to classrooms today; students focusing on forests this year; widening of bus turnaround was a very positive change
- ***Saturna Elementary School/SEEC***
Very busy with secondary students in the SEEC program – 13 students from Sunday night to Wednesday afternoon; 11 out of 13 SEEC students come from Vancouver; high school and primary buddies working together; new VP, Cameron Fraser

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

(a) **Welcome Back**

Welcome back to everyone for the 2011/2012 school year. Welcome to Cameron Fraser, the new Vice Principal at Saturna School, and his family.

(b) **Notice of Motion for Local School Calendar**

It was moved that the Board of Education adopts a Local School Calendar for the 2012/2013 school year that reduces the number of instructional days by approximately 25 to 30 resulting in a four-day school week. The instructional time from these days will be added to the remaining days of instruction. The

resulting savings will allow the district to preserve programs and options for our students. The motion will be tabled at the regular Public Board meeting on April 11, 2012.

It was moved and seconded that in order to give ample time for public input and discussion, be it resolved the Board of Education will consult with the community in accordance with the *School Act* and the School Calendar Regulation to seek input and feedback regarding the proposed Local School Calendar. Written submissions may be made to the Board throughout the school year until April 11, 2012. Additionally, time will be allotted for public input on each island community immediately following the Regular Public Board meeting held on each island. Proper notice will be given in each community as to the time and date of these meetings.

CARRIED 53/11

(c) Bargaining Update

Bargaining is on hold until next week as BCPSEA is awaiting word from arbitrator Marguerite Jackson regards clarification of her August 28th ruling on the application of *Public Education Labour Relations Act* (PELRA) in the split of provincial vs. local issues in bargaining.

CUPE bargaining is going well. There are some outstanding provincial issues, but discussion regards local issues is positive.

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Enrollment Update

Mr. Hopkins reported overall enrollment is up from the projected 1710 students to 1728. Regular FTE students increased from 1605 to 1645; International FTE students declined slightly from 62 to 53, which likely coincides with global economy at present; and adult FTE enrolled students are also slightly down from 43 to 30, but this number will likely increase by late September early October when most adult learners apply to take courses. The most significant enrollment increases are at Fernwood Elementary and Gulf Islands Secondary School.

(b) Staffing Update

The majority of postings went out and were filled by the end of June. A few more postings will be coming up soon.

(c) Job Action Update

The school year began with Phase One of BCTF's planned job action. Phase One includes the withdrawal of certain duties, but does not involve school closures or picketing. Mr. Hopkins prepared an information letter to students, parents, staff and community partners regards the job action and what teachers need not do. This letter is on the home page of the district website at: <http://www.sd64.bc.ca/>. Mr. Hopkins states "the relationship between teachers and management here in this district is positive" and he's confident it will remain so during and after this strike.

(d) Windsor House Update

Windsor House School in North Vancouver is now officially part of School District #64 (Gulf Islands) and the staff is very happy to be with the district. Enrollment is up slightly from the projected 120 FTE students to 126 and this will likely increase by the end of September. The most challenging issue has been technological – computers needed upgrading, Internet had to be set up again and all software had to be re-installed. Mr. Hopkins is presently working with North Vancouver regards a building lease, which will be for a year at most. A building search committee to look for new accommodation to house the school in is being set up by Windsor House PAC.

(e) Oceans Network Canada

Ocean Networks Canada (ONC) (<http://www.oceannetworks.ca/index.html>) is a not-for-profit society created by the University of Victoria to build and sustain Canada's world leadership in ocean science and technology through the NEPTUNE Canada and VENUS ocean observatories. The cabled ocean observatories support a new generation of coastal and deep ocean research and offers educational

possibilities and opportunities for all students. Rick Searle, Manager of Communications and Engagement of Ocean Networks Canada Centre for Enterprise and Engagement (ONCCEE), contacted Superintendent Hopkins to discuss the possibility of the district partnering with ONC to enable students (K to 12) who are interested in ocean science to engage in studies and research beyond the classroom.

9. CORPORATE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Audited Financial Statements for 2010/2011

Secretary Treasurer Rod Scotvold presented and explained in detail the Audited Financial Statements for the 2010/2011 Fiscal Year, year ended June 30, 2011. On behalf of the Board, Chair McKenzie thanked Mr. Scotvold and Connie Moulton for all their work on another successful audit.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the 2010/2011 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

CARRIED 54/11

(b) Water Taxi Contract – 2011 to 2013

The water taxi tender closed on August 31, 2011 and only one tender was received, which was from Gulf Islands Water Taxi Ltd. The price submitted for service is \$655,760.00 per year, which includes \$73,350.00 for the additional service to Port Washington with the Ganges Hawk. The benchmark for fuel as at August 15, 2011 was \$1.46/litre at the Ganges fuel dock, which is up from \$1.26/litre from the last contract benchmark in 2009. Mr. Scotvold feels the increase in the contract is driven mainly by the increase in the cost of fuel and maintenance costs to boats.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education accepts the contract proposal of \$1,311,520.00, which does not include HST, received from Gulf Islands Water Taxi Ltd. for the two-year period from September 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013.

CARRIED 55/11

(c) Summer Work Program

It was a very busy summer with a number of projects identified. These included: minor roofing repairs at SSE, Phoenix Elementary and GISS, new hot water tanks at GISS and Fulford, ventilation system installed at SSE, upgraded lighting system in GISS gym, floor covering replacement at Mayne, GISS gym floor refinished, widening of bus turnaround at SSE, interior and exterior maintenance painting and floor maintenance and cleaning by the BSW crews. On behalf of the Board, Chair McKenzie extended a thank you to Tom Graham and Dave Henshall and crews for all their hard work.

(d) Playground Funding

In a September 2, 2011 press release, Premier Christy Clark announced \$8 million for 44 new playgrounds and playground upgrades for schools across British Columbia. Phoenix Elementary School was one of the 44 schools identified to receive \$50,000 in provincial funding for a new playground.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Policy Committee

(i) Policy 530, Attendance Areas – K to 8

The Notice of Motion for this revised policy was forwarded to all partner groups in June 2011.

It was moved and seconded that *Policy 530, Attendance Areas – K to 8* be adopted as revised.

CARRIED 56/11

11. OTHER BUSINESS

12. QUESTION PERIOD

13. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Committee Day – September 28, 2011, at the School Board Office
- (b) Regular Board Meeting – October 12, 2011 at Saturna Elementary School/SEEC

14. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

CARRIED 57/11

Date Approved: October 12, 2011

May McKenzie
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold
Secretary Treasurer