



MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE
December 15, 2015 at 8:00 am

Present:	May McKenzie	Chairperson
	Rob Pingle	Vice Chairperson
	Anna Herlitz	Trustee
	John Wakefield	Trustee
	Nancy Macdonald	Trustee
	Susanne Middleditch	Trustee
	Lisa Halstead	Superintendent of Schools
	Linda Underwood	Director of Instruction, Human Resources
	Cindy Rodgers	Manager of Finance
	Wendy Vine	Recording Assistant
Regrets:	Shelley Lawson	Trustee
	Rod Scotvold	Secretary Treasurer
	Doug Livingston	Director of Instruction, Learning Services
	Dawne Fennell	Executive Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. in Superintendent Halstead's office at the School Board Office. This meeting is held via teleconference, with all the attending Trustees and the Manager of Finance participating through teleconference and three staff members present in the School Board Office.

1. SPECIAL MEETING

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education agrees to hold a Special Public meeting, waiving the 48 hours notice of meeting requirement.

CARRIED 105/15

2. R and R PROGRAM

Chair McKenzie outlined the situation and unfolding of process so far. She reported out the three motions from the in-camera meeting on December 9. They are as follows:

It was moved and seconded that the Board suspend the delivery of the Respectful Relationships Program at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

CARRIED 67/15

It was moved and seconded that the Superintendent write a letter to SWOVA outlining the current and short term plan for the Respectful Relationships Program, including the preparation of a public announcement regarding the review.

CARRIED 68/15

It was moved and seconded that the Board pay for and assume ownership of the Respectful Relationships Program review and that the incomplete review be referred to the Program Committee for further evaluation and recommendations.

CARRIED 69/15

After the December 9 Board meeting, as per Motion 68/15 above, a letter was sent to SWOVA by Superintendent Halstead. An e-mail response has been received from SWOVA and was forwarded to Trustees.

Discussion focused on crafting a response to SWOVA's e-mail. Discussion points highlighted the need to be clear about why the action to suspend the Respectful Relationships program at Gulf Islands Secondary School is being taken (in light of the lack of a clear explanation for the reviewer stepping down), concerns brought forward initially by students, parents, and teachers and now more recently confirmed by the survey, how to explain the tie to new transformative curriculum to both the public and SWOVA, and how the incomplete review impacts decision-making about moving forward with the program.

The following public announcement was crafted through discussion, for release this morning, through the following channels: SWOVA, Gulf Islands Driftwood newspaper, Saltspring Island Middle School, Gulf Islands Secondary School, District Parent Advisory Council, Principals and Vice Principals, employees at the School Board Office, CUPE, GITA, and the District website.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

December 15, 2015

The joint review of the Respectful Relationships program initiated by School District 64 (Gulf Islands) and SWOVA Community Development & Research Society is on hold. The program reviewer is no longer able to continue with the review.

While the delivery of the Respectful Relationships program at Gulf Islands Secondary School has been suspended at this time, the district will be working with SWOVA Community Development & Research Society toward adapting the delivery of the Respectful Relationships program at the middle years level during the upcoming term. School District 64 is appreciative of our long-term partnership with SWOVA Community Development & Research Society in the delivery of the Respectful Relationships program. For further information contact Lisa Halstead, Superintendent.

3. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

CARRIED 106/15

Date: January 13, 2016

May McKenzie
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold
Secretary Treasurer