



**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (GULF ISLANDS)
HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2009 AT FERNWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Present:	May McKenzie	Chairperson
	Pete Williams	Trustee
	Susanne Middleditch	Trustee
	Bonnie MacGillivray	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
	Wendy Vine	Recording Secretary
John Nicolson	GITA President	
Peter Price	CUPE Representative	
Richard Bennett	GIPVPA Representative	
Regrets:	Mike Krayenhoff	Vice Chairperson

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 2009 11 10, be adopted as amended with the following additions:

- 7 (a) GISS Vice Principal
- 7 (b) Legion Military Service Recognition Book

CARRIED 77/09

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2009 10 14, be approved as presented.

CARRIED 78/09

3. BUSINESS ARISING

None

4. DELEGATIONS

None

5. TRUSTEE'S SCHOOL REPORTS

➤ ***Fernwood Elementary School***

School is working on building community; the choir participated in Peace Works; school has had a Drop Everything and Read session and has been participating in a variety of family group activities including a Remembrance Day assembly today, where the family groups presented to the whole school; some beginning of the year field trips; great concern regarding lack of funding for the SSI Conservancy programs and the impact on local community field trips (a teacher is leading a campaign); PAC active and supportive but no volunteers yet for School Planning Council; 116 students enrolled now; teachers had a good Pro D day sharing what they learned on the provincial Pro D day.

➤ ***Fulford Community Elementary School***

Students joined GISS for Remembrance Day assembly and then Grade 4/5s stayed with their high school buddies; most classes running across BC/Canada; Christmas Concert scheduled for Dec. 15; Reduce, Re-use, Recycle, Rewrap, Regift family evening scheduled for Dec. 10; Goldstream field trip coming up on Nov. 12; staff to be commended in two areas: for warm welcome of student teacher; and, due to a high proportion of students on the autism spectrum, all staff have committed to spending 5 days doing training through Autism Outreach—2 days completed already

- ***Galiano Community School***
Today participating in Remembrance Day ceremony focusing on peace, with lots of contributions from students; principal has explained the new report card changes to parents, who seem very pleased; rehearsals for popular Christmas Concert now underway, with community member and parent help; *Food Forever* program: students and elders working together—program involves developing a cookbook from the school, with an artist helping students develop illustrations, Trustee MacGillivray helping students take photographs, and a community member helping with the desktop publishing, including interviews of elders done last year; proposal coming forth to build, fund, and run a greenhouse at the school. School Planning Council is working on developing the Social Responsibility goal, from the planning done by the staff on Planning Day.
- ***Gulf Islands Secondary School***
No report. Trustee Krayenhoff absent.
- ***Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School***
Halloween dance was great fun; Christmas play rehearsals now starting up, with technical aspects being sponsored and mentored by community theatre group; all here at GISS today; had successful music session with Oona McOuat; PAC bottle drive was a financial success; representatives already chosen for Nov 19th School Planning Council orientation day; new StrongStart centre is up and running.
- ***Pender Islands Elem./Sec. School***
New StrongStart centre is up and running; Remembrance Day activity today involved students going up to the cemetery for a short service and then Legion members escorting students to veterans' graves, putting candles there to be lit in the evening; report cards going out Nov. 19th in new format; school is booked solid most of the time, with always something going on; new activity is after school basketball with Tim Frick (former coach of women's national wheelchair basketball team); school has experienced typical attendance despite the flu (people are staying home when sick).
- ***Phoenix Elementary School***
No report. Trustee Krayenhoff absent.
- ***Saltspring Island Middle School***
Remembrance Day assembly there today; PAC is trying to do a weekly hot lunch program following healthy food guidelines, including sponsoring pizza days; have had authors visiting for writing workshops; Hoops for Heart event is scheduled for Dec. 3.
- ***Salt Spring Elementary School***
School website has been redeveloped recently to increase communication; blog is being set up by PAC secretary; very keen PAC chair this year; had a very successful potluck family Halloween lantern festival 2 weeks ago, organized by the PAC; PAC is planning a fundraising dance for Nov. 28; PAC has plans for swim night at the pool; Grade 5 Spirits starting up (leadership group retreat today); pet rats newborn in Ms Weinert's class; staff is doing lots of work on the code of conduct—presenting to students now.
- ***Saturna Elementary School/SEEC***
Tomorrow students will participate in community Remembrance Day event; November is field trip month, including a Wellness Conference at UVic (for grade 6s), island-hopping to Salt Spring and then to Chemainus to see Anne of Green Gables (thanks to the Salt Spring parents for driving); older kids going to a screenplay writing and science workshop; Christmas concert is in the works, with hopes to bring it to Salt Spring because of so many Salt Spring students at the school now; bottle drive fundraiser was successful.

Superintendent Hopkins and Chairperson McKenzie will collaborate on a letter of support for the lost Salt Spring Island Conservancy programs that have been so affected by funding losses.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence.

7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- (a) **GISS Vice Principal:** David Astill has been appointed as the new acting GISS Vice Principal, temporarily, during Kelda Logan's maternity leave, at least until the end of the year.
- (b) **Legion Military Service Recognition Book:** School District 64 purchased an ad. Chairperson McKenzie has a copy of the book.

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Education Links Report

Last meeting was held October 20, 2009. The new format for meetings allows for talk about the great initiatives happening in the district. The changing membership of the group can make communication challenging.

Highlights:

- After much conversation and input, a proposal for Full day Kindergarten has been submitted to the Ministry.
- International Program: what's in the future? Perhaps changing the focus so the program is about international issues rather than the students being international. The District is helping the Korean school in Seoul to open, acting as advisors and offering Pro D.
- The Aboriginal Enhancement agreement is on the agenda for the future.

(b) School Planning Council (SPC) Orientation

The orientation will be held Thursday, November 19, from 9:00 am until noon, in the Salt Spring Elementary Multi-purpose Room. This meeting is for all current SPC members from each school and the invitation will be extended to trustees, the DPAC executive, and the GITA president. The water taxi will be available to those coming from the Outer Islands.

(c) Superintendent's Report on Achievement

Superintendent Hopkins's report will come out by Dec. 15

Trustees are asked to think about children in the formal care of the Ministry of Children and Family Development: specifically, how do we find out about and be responsible for them?

Trustees are asked to give Mr. Hopkins feedback on the achievement information and how they would like it presented. (For referral, last year's report is on the district website.)

(d) Report Card Update

A Filemaker Pro database for student reporting has been developed by Kevin Vine, with input from stakeholders and piloting last spring at one school. It is high powered and easy to use, it holds a lot of data, and is flexible and useful for teachers at many levels. It is now ready for most grades to grade 8 for this reporting period, and will undergo more modification for primary, kindergarten, and then high school. It is being considered as a marketable product provincially. A website update and information for parents will up on the District website within the next few days. Superintendent of Achievement Rod Allen is supportive of the possibility of marketing it provincially.

(e) March Board Retreat

The Retreat is scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at the Harbour House Hotel. John Abbott is confirmed to attend and David Suzuki is considered likely to attend; John LeFebvre is interested in hosting the meeting. Details about the day, such as inviting the community and possibly extending the number of days, will be on the agenda at the next Committee Meeting.

(f) Amended Class Size and Composition Report

See attachment for Superintendent Hopkins' rationale, given on the advice of BCPSEA.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education accepts the *Amended Class Size and Composition Report* as presented.

CARRIED 79/09

(g) Superintendent of Achievement's Visit

Superintendent of Achievement Rod Allen visited the district on November 5, 2009. Issues with data were discussed and recognized by him (i.e. the fact that the numbers don't help paint a true picture of our students, that the graduation rates are skewed by international students, particularly females, who leave GISS to graduate at home, and when these are factored out, we get 94.5% girls' and 93.5% boys' graduation rate). The measures are not likely to change because of their consistency over time. But we do make sense of our own numbers and we are in pretty good shape, according to him. It was felt to be a good opportunity to showcase our district.

9. CORPORATE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Monthly Financial Report

The monthly expenditure report indicates that with 33.3% of the year completed, 28.04% of the budget has been expended. We are 5.29% below budget at this time.

(b) 2009/2010 Year Capital Plan

None of the projects submitted by SD 64 are supported. A surplus is expected from the seismic project at SIMS. It will be transferred into the District's capital reserve, to be used later with Ministry approval.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Pingle outlined a community initiative: The month of November is declared *Movember* (grow a moustache for prostate cancer research. There will be a house concert at his house on Nov. 30; ask him for details if interested).

12. QUESTION PERIOD

13. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Committee Day – November 25, 2009 at the School Board Office
- (b) Regular Board Meeting – December 02, 2009 at the School Board Office

14. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

CARRIED 80/09

Date: December 2, 2009

May McKenzie
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold
Secretary Treasurer

LOCAL SCHOOL CALENDAR CONSULTATION FOR 2010/2011

No discussion. (0 community members present).