



**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (GULF ISLANDS)  
HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010 AT PENDER ISLANDS SCHOOL**

<b>Present:</b>	May McKenzie	Chairperson
	Bonnie MacGillivray	Vice Chairperson
	Susanne Middleditch	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
	John Nicolson	GITA President
	Karen Ramlo	CUPE Representative
	Martin Blakesley	GIPVPA Representative
	Shelley Lawson	DPAC Representative
<b>Regrets:</b>	Pete Williams	Trustee
	Mike Krayenhoff	Trustee

**1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2010 04 14, be adopted as amended with the following additions:

- 7 (b) Principalship at Mayne
- 7 (c) Middle Years SEEC Program
- 8 (e) Field Trip #127

CARRIED 28/10

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2010 03 24, be approved as amended.

CARRIED 29/10

**3. BUSINESS ARISING**

**(a) Local School Calendar For 2010/2011**

The trustees have reviewed all feedback received regarding a four-day instructional week calendar. Secretary Treasurer Rod Scotvold spoke to the projected financial projections based on a 4-day instructional week vs. a 5-day instructional week. The projected financial shortfall for 2010/2011 based on the 5-day instructional week would be \$539,450 compared to a projected financial shortfall of \$146,500 based on the 4-day instructional week. The operational implications from the \$539,450 shortfall would result in the reduction of large number of staff, which would have a major impact on educational programs. The operational implications from the \$146,500 shortfall would be a reduction of 1.75 FTE to staff in instruction.

Trustee Rob Pingle read the Notice of Motion that was passed September 9, 2009:

*It was moved that the Board of Education adopts a Local School Calendar for the 2010/2011 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 14, 2010.*

Chair McKenzie opened the floor for discussion.

Discussion included:

- A query with regard to the added days on January 28, 2011 and June 24, 2011 for exams. Mr. Hopkins explained these days were added during exam weeks to accommodate students rather than taking days from Spring Break and requiring students to return part way through a week to meet the minimum required days of instruction.
- A query regarding the Ministry requirement for minimum days of instruction for the 2010/2011 school year. The requirement is 185 days. This translates into 156 days of instruction for School District #64 on the 4-day instructional week.

Chair McKenzie declared the discussion period closed and called for a vote on the motion.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopts a change to the local school calendar resulting in 156 days of instruction for the 2010/2011 school year.

***Rationale:** The implementation of an altered school calendar enables the Board to retain educational programs and options for our students.*

CARRIED 30/10

The final version of the calendar will be sent out to all partner groups, schools and uploaded on the district website.

**4. DELEGATIONS**

No delegates.

**5. TRUSTEE'S SCHOOL REPORTS**

- ***Fernwood Elementary School***  
Conservancy program is funded for this year; school photos April 8; fundraising efforts through "Save the Change" program at Island Savings; demonstration by fire fighters for Kindergarten students; Jump Rope for Heart coming up on April 14
- ***Fulford Community Elementary School***  
Art room – students building a small town representing Swan Lake of years gone by; great time to visit the woods; community writers in school to raise money for literacy; students working in the garden; PAC meeting coming up
- ***Galiano Community School***  
PAC meeting yesterday, lots of activities coming up – sports day, Kuper Island students invited, Camp Thunderbird, bike rodeo, bingo fundraiser; SLC student, Chelsea, graduated – whole school attended her surprise celebration; orienteering is being offered in younger class
- ***Gulf Islands Secondary School***  
No report. Trustee Krayenhoff absent.
- ***Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School***  
PAC meeting yesterday, long list of activities planned – fire raffle, swimming lessons, Earth Day, celebration in garden; 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of GICEL, which began on Mayne Island; SWOVA facilitators visiting soon to deliver program on respectful relationships; parent retreat on April 23 on SSI
- ***Pender Islands Elem./Sec. School***  
Thanks to Jane Gregory, Karen Ramlo and everyone who supported the Olympic effort for every student to attend; parent teacher interviews; Farmers' Institute – seed planting day, think globally, act locally; fall fair; home based learning – Spring Leaves – pizza day, parent brought threshing

machine and grain – students put the grain through machine, ground it, and made pizza that all students shared; PAC held monthly lunch which feeds all students and staff; topsoil was donated for garden beds; Ocean’s Day, Earth Day, and sports day coming up

- **Phoenix Elementary School**  
No report. Trustee Krayenhoff absent.
- **Salt Spring Island Middle School**  
PAC working on talent show for April 24; April 21 – Earth Day activities; student coming from Crofton next year and the potential for more, parents choosing to send their children to SSI for programs; class photo day; Pink Shirt Day today – anti-bullying
- **Salt Spring Elementary School**  
Art in the school – doing mosaic, students working with artist; conservancy program – trip to Ford Lake; April 15 – *Eggs Go For Gold* event at GISS – all students in grades 1-5 will go to GISS for breakfast (prepared by Chef Al and his students) with Andrea Holmes, a Canadian Paralympic sprinter; Marianne Banman offering free after school tennis lessons on Thursdays
- **Saturna Elementary School/SEEC**  
Surf and turf theme; turf – issue is goats, wild goats, some people want to get rid of them and some want to keep them; students will do survey on pros and cons, gathering information from residents; surf – 150 salmon eggs have been released into Harbour Creek; Coast Guard doing presentation on safety; finished 10 lessons of swimming at pool on SSI

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence.

7. **CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT**

(a) **VISTA Chairs’ Meeting with Minister of Education**

All chairs met prior to their meeting with the Minister to prepare three questions they wanted to present. These questions addressed:

1. sustainable funding
2. co-governance rather than advocacy
3. changes to public education as addressed in the Throne Speech

The Minister addressed each question stating that although education is their priority, there is no more funding; there doesn’t appear to be co-governance, only advocacy from districts for more funding. Ms McKenzie asked about educational opportunities, the work of John Abbott and how we can work together to make educational changes. Minister MacDiarmid said she had met Mr. Abbott and read his latest book, “Over Schooled but Under Educated”. Ms. McKenzie spoke about the SEEC program and invited the Minister to visit Saturna.

(b) **Principalship at Mayne**

Dr. Binfet took a leave from administrative duties for the 2009/2010 school year and Ms Kirkpatrick was appointed Acting Principal. Dr. Binfet recently submitted a letter of resignation effective April 8, 2010. He will be moving to Southern California. Ms Kirkpatrick will continue as Acting Principal of Mayne School until July 31, 2010. She has indicated her desire to become the full-time Principal of Mayne Island School.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education ratifies the appointment of Donna Kirkpatrick as Principal of Mayne Island Elementary/Jr. Secondary School effective August 1, 2010.

CARRIED 31/10

(c) **Middle Years SEEC Program**

The district has explored the possibility of creating a new middle years learning program, *Shared Ecological Education Centre*, (Grades 5-8), which will welcome students from all five islands. It will be part of the already established SEEC program and all islands will be utilized. A meeting was held for

interested parties on Thursday, March 25 at SIMS, which resulted in 38 expressions of interest from parents. The program is proposed to begin in September 2010. It will continue to include secondary students and community members.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education supports the implementation of the new "Shared Ecological Education Centre" middle years program, based on Salt Spring Island and connecting students from all five islands in the district.

CARRIED 32/10

**8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**(a) Field Trip Request #116**

A field trip request (#116) from Tony Mason, GISS teacher and coach, to take the Senior Girls' Volleyball team (12 students in Grades 10-12) to Waikiki, Hawaii October 1 to 10, 2010, to participate in volleyball instruction and cultural experiences. Most of the cost of the trip will be through fund raising efforts. Approval from Superintendent Hopkins is pending the receipt of the consent package.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the athletic field trip for the Senior Girls' Volleyball team to travel to Waikiki, Hawaii October 1 to 10, 2010, to participate in volleyball instruction and cultural experiences.

CARRIED 33/10

**(b) Retreat Follow-up and District Planning Day**

The feedback from the retreat has been positive. Summarized information has been sent to the Principals/Vice Principals to aid in their planning at the District Planning Day/Retirement Luncheon on Friday, May 7. Mr. Hopkins has prepared a draft agenda for planning day, which will be sent out to the PVP group.

**(c) Report Card Update**

The district has recently gone through another report card period and Mr. Hopkins has received positive feedback. The language is with regard to assessment and best practice, based on school performance standards. The level of information is of a higher quality, more professional. The province has shown interest in using the district's template. At this point, it is being used from Grades K to 8. A secondary version will be developed.

**(d) Connecting Generations**

The Connecting Generations pilot project the *Living Library*, a library of community/school resource people who can be "borrowed" in order to obtain information on their particular area of expertise was initiated over a year ago and is now being utilized in some classes. The RCMP helped with the screening process and security is still being assessed. When complete and running smoothly, it will be placed on the district website.

**(e) Field Trip #127**

A field trip request (#127) from Bruce Creswick, SIMS band teacher, to take band and choir students in Grades 6-9 to San Francisco, California May 6-13, 2011, to participate in concert performances and cultural experiences. Approval from Superintendent Hopkins is pending the receipt of the consent package. Lots of time has been allocated for fund-raising.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the extra-curricular field trip for the Saltspring Island Middle School band and choir students in Grades 6-9 to travel to San Francisco, California May 6-13, 2011, to participate in concert performances and cultural experiences.

CARRIED 34/10

**9. CORPORATE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT**

**(a) Monthly Expenditure Report**

The monthly expenditure report indicates that with 75.00% of the year completed, 71.44% of the budget has been expended. We are 3.56% below budget at this time. Sick leave did not increase this year, but has remained on the same level as last year.

**10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No reports.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS**

**12. QUESTION PERIOD**

**13. NEXT MEETING DATES**

(a) Committee Day – April 28, 2010 at the School Board Office

(b) Regular Board Meeting – May 12, 2010 at Mayne Island School

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

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

CARRIED 35/10

Date Approved: May 12, 2010

May McKenzie  
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold  
Secretary Treasurer