



**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (GULF ISLANDS)
HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2011 AT MAYNE ISLAND SCHOOL**

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
	Donna Kirkpatrick	GIPVPA Representative
	Eva Olynyk	Student Representative
Regrets:	Andy McNish	CUPE President
	Shelley Lawson	DPAC Representative

Chair McKenzie congratulated Jack Braak on his successful appointment as GITA President for 2011/2012. 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 05 11, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED 35/11

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2011 04 13, be approved as presented.

CARRIED 36/11

3. BUSINESS ARISING

4. DELEGATIONS

Parent delegates present to discuss water taxi transportation issues for the 2011/2012 school year.

Chair McKenzie explained there has always been a formal process in place regards cross boundary transfer requests (Policy 530). A letter is to be sent to the Superintendent for approval, copied to the Principals of the schools involved by the March 31 deadline. Mr. Hopkins did not receive any cross boundary transfer requests for the 2010/2011 school year, hence the overload. The Graduate will be running at capacity with approximately 52 Pender high school students for the 2011/2012 school year. These students have priority – all other students, staff, trustees and parents travel as courtesy riders if there is space.

Financially the district cannot afford to contract another boat; the current water taxi schedules will be reviewed and revised with the option of using the Scholarship to pick up students on Mayne and Galiano, and then make the run to Pender to pick up any students not able to board the Graduate. Mr. Hopkins will draft a letter to parents regards priority. Mr. Scotvold will have more information regards water taxi transportation for the May 25 Committee Day. Synopsis of discussion:

- Review and revise Policy 530 as required
- Student ridership cards
- The possibility of earlier start times for Galiano and Mayne students by 10-15 minutes
- Funding from the Ministry, no increase for past 8 years; rising fuel costs

- There will be no charge to students riding the water taxis
- How can the OI schools build more capacity / strengthen programs for students on their home islands?

5. **TRUSTEE'S SCHOOL REPORTS**

- ***Fernwood Elementary School***
Pizza day and “water walk” to raise money to provide wells in India; track and field day, May 31; June 16 family picnic and retirement party; Spring Carnival, May 15; emergency preparedness
- ***Fulford Community Elementary School***
Swimming lessons every morning for next month; May 9, hug-a-tree workshop; field trips; Gallery in the School for 3 days (outreach program from Victoria Art Gallery); track and field, May 31; emergency preparedness
- ***Galiano Community School***
April 29 – hosted Ab. Ed. day, which was organized by Lyall Ruehlen – all grade 5’s from the district gathered on Galiano, stations for students to visit all around Montague Harbour – drumming, story telling, herbs and food, indigenous plants, native issues, salmon BBQ; May 5, Cinco de Mayo, PAC raised \$1,600, money goes towards field trips; school is full of starter plants; softball starting with all new equipment; tennis starting
- ***Gulf Islands Secondary School***
Report from Eva Olynyk, Student Representative: “Spirit” publication – shows diversity in school; all candidates meeting – huge success; super DL programs and structural changes in school; GISS has blind student attending for the first time; track and field team did very well; fine woodworking exhibition; developing more connection with community members; GISPA show starts tonight
- ***Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School***
Phoenix Elementary students visited, theme was water and students participated at different stations; music programs, cooking, guitar, garden, quilting program; pod group activities – importance of tying shoes, candle making, students want to replace cement block structure – sending letters to Dave Henshall, carved signs above doors, cowboy day, talent show, pod tea, replacing mural out front; primary class going on beach day with conservancy; Ready, Set, Learn; bike rodeo; K orientation; grade 8 grad
- ***Pender Islands Elem./Sec. School***
Gr. 4/5 went to Galiano for Ab. Ed. day; salmon fry release; Camp Thunderbird; Spring Leaves program students going to Saturna; Gr. 8’s going to GISS for transitioning; Gr. 8’s participated in the Times Colonist 10 k run, which all students completed, teacher, Mrs. Bolen was the coordinator of the students’ training and entering the run
- ***Phoenix Elementary School***
New website up and running; author Marie Louise Gay visited; newsletter is called “Fuel for the Fire”; visited teacher Geri Charlton in LDP program – students participated in “pass it on story”, each student drew a picture, Ms Charlton collected them and published the finished booklet; at the Aviation Museum in Victoria today; whole school camping at Ruckle Park at end of June; intermediate kids focusing on social responsibility and going to Burgoyne Bay on field trip; May 31, Gr. 8 orientation
- ***Saltspring Island Middle School***
Band students are in San Francisco – May 6 to 12, bus broke down in middle of Oregon, had to wait for a replacement; May 18, Gr. 5 parent info night followed by PAC meeting; Gr. 8 orientation at GISS on May 31; lots of parent involvement – bi-weekly hot lunch program, talent show, pep rally
- ***Salt Spring Elementary School***
Author Mary Louise Gay visited school; Ms Fishlock’s class made cherry blossom buttons to raise money for kids in Japan; food drive for global awareness first 2 weeks in May; Stream of Dreams has visited 3 times; water theme throughout the school; June 9 Holly Artsen will work with students to create water theme songs; today is wacky hair day; “Tea for Threes” – ELF centre is having tea for 3 year olds and their parents

➤ ***Saturna Elementary School/SEEC***

Ab. Ed. day on Galiano – kids enjoyed drumming, learning about the caves on Galiano, salmon BBQ was great; sports day on Galiano coming up; older students made 7 different science projects and shared them with the 2 younger students; Spring Leaves group from Pender at SEEC; raised the walls at SEEC site

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **Letter from Kindergarten Parents**

Letter composed and signed by a number of parents whose children, presently in the ELF programs on Salt Spring Island, will be entering full-day Kindergarten in September. The letter focuses on the needs of Kindergarten students, student/teacher ratio and teacher qualifications, i.e. request that the teachers have special training/experience in early childhood education (ECE). Mr. Hopkins explained that qualifications for ECE facilitators are different than teacher qualifications and the district can't hire ECE facilitators to teach Kindergarten. In the most recently posted positions for district Kindergarten teachers, the qualifications listed were specific for teaching Kindergarten students and School District #64 is the only district to be so explicit.

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

No report.

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

(a) **Education Links Report**

The last meeting of the Education Links committee was held April 19, 2011. Highlights are:

- The committee is comprised of a core group that meets, picks one or two main topics and invites the appropriate guests for discussion about those topics, i.e. DL, SLC, LDP, Spring Leaves programs (hybrid programs):
 - ▶ Want to make them clearer and consistent
 - ▶ Will be called LDP and under that will be DL, SLC, Spring Leaves, etc.
 - ▶ Sharing resources and ideas and helping each other out in areas of specialization, i.e. math, digital art
 - ▶ Individual plan templates
- Working on website to centralize and clarify information
- Kathryn Akehurst and Cathy Takagaki put on workshop re: personal learning plan, incorporating play in K to 8, assessment
- Book clubs
- Kathryn and Janet applied for a grant for ECE programs
- Play kits in ECE centres – grocery store, shoe store

(b) **Retreat Summary and Planning Day Overview**

Mr. Hopkins has taken information gleaned from the District Retreat indicating “readiness” for personalized learning from groups of teachers, parents and students and developed a series of charts and graphs as a visual means of determining where people are presently. Information/recommendations will be shared with staff members at Planning Day with the goal of developing a district action plan regards personalized learning. Breakout sessions will allow schools to focus on their own initiatives and actions. Discussion will also include the need for technology updates to support personalized learning.

(c) **Staffing Update**

Nine teachers were affected by surplus to need this year, last year 15 teachers were involved. Everyone had a greater understanding of the process this year. Everything unfolded well and expediently. A number of continuing position postings have been sent out and Ms. Underwood informed those on recall.

Educational Assistants' Selection Day is June 2 and information is being gathered from schools regards positions for 2011/2012.

9. CORPORATE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Monthly Expenditure Report

The monthly expenditure report indicates that with 0.8333% of the year completed, 0.8211% of the budget has been expended. We are 1.22% below budget at this time. This year will likely be a break-even year. Sick leave has been substantial this year as well as the extra costs for water taxi transportation.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

12. QUESTION PERIOD

Regards to the April 11, 2011 BC Supreme Court ruling on Bill 27 and 28 Jack Braak, GITA President asked if the district would consider the language in the Collective Agreement from 2001 and staffing for the 2011/2012 school year. Superintendent Hopkins stated the district would not staff to the 2001 contract language. The changes to the *School Act* made by Bill 28 "remain in effect until April 13, 2012 or until it is amended or replaced by constitutionally valid legislation prior to that date". Paul Straszak, President and CEO of PSEC, has been appointed by government to coordinate the consultation process and has proposed the government and BCTF enter into good faith negotiations. Mr. Braak stated he appreciates how the district handled staffing during these past years while Bill 27 and 28 were in effect.

13. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Committee Day – May 25, 2011 at the School Board Office
- (b) Regular Board Meeting – June 08, 2011 at the School Board Office

14. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

CARRIED 37/11

Date Approved: June 8, 2011

May McKenzie
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold
Secretary Treasurer