



MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
Board of Education, School District #64 (Gulf Islands)
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE
September 11, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Present:	May McKenzie	Chairperson
	Bonnie MacGillivray	Trustee
	Katharine Byers	Trustee
	Kathy Page	Trustee
	Susanne Middleditch	Trustee
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Lisa Halstead	Superintendent of Schools
	Rod Scotvold	Secretary Treasurer
	Linda Underwood	Director of Instruction, Human Resources
	Cindy Rodgers	Manager of Finance
	Doug Livingston	Director of Instruction, Learning Services
	Dawne Fennell	Executive Assistant
	Deborah Nostdal	GITA President
	Larry Melious	CUPE President (arrived at 1:20 p.m.)
	Elizabeth Nolan	Driftwood Representative
Regrets:	Pete Williams	Vice Chairperson
	Tania Aguila	DPAC Representative
		GIPVPA Representative
		GISS Student Representative

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Chair McKenzie welcomed Deborah Nostdal and Larry Melious to their first Board meeting as GITA and CUPE Presidents respectively.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2013 09 11, be adopted with the following addition:

8 (b) BAA Courses

CARRIED 43/13

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2013 06 12, be approved as presented.

CARRIED 44/13

3. BUSINESS ARISING

4. DELEGATIONS

(a) Martin Thorn – Happy Feet Day for October

SIMS teacher, Martin Thorn presented his proposal regarding “active transport” and his goal of getting students to walk more. He would like to start with the SIMS students who would leave school buses at strategic points along the route to SIMS and walk the final kilometer to school along pathways and roadways with less traffic. Two parent volunteers will meet the students at each point and walk with them to the school. At the end of the day, the route would be reversed. Mr. Thorn has been in preliminary discussion with Mr. Scotvold and Mr. Garner. He would like to begin on Wednesday, October 9, which is the International Walk to School Day. Mr. Thorn will send permission slips home with the students for parental consent. Students who do not wish to walk can remain on the bus. Ultimately, with Board approval, Mr. Thorn would like to make this a monthly activity. He will report out to the Board on Committee Day, October 23.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the structure as discussed for the October Happy Feet Day for the current year and review subsequently.

CARRIED 45/13

5. **TRUSTEE'S SCHOOL REPORTS**

- ***Fernwood Elementary School***
Very enthusiastic start up; new principal, Kelda Logan; new BSW, Laura Morgan; students participated in Terry Fox run; ELF program running 1 morning a week (Monday)
- ***Fulford Community Elementary School***
New principal, Marie Mullen; Chocolate Lovers fundraising booth at Fall Fair in support of art gallery project
- ***Galiano Community School***
Great start-up; 7 new kindies, no desks, very welcoming, seamless as most kindies know other students; new teacher, Brenda Lepine; new administrative assistant, Lori Seay; 2 new students in older class; team-teaching; PAC meeting yesterday – 10 parents attended
- ***Gulf Islands Secondary School***
Good start-up; BBQ lunch last Friday; meet the teachers; field trips already happening; greenhouse being put up next month; flex block system being refined; administrative team developing policy on attendance; 14 students in Phoenix Place; PAC meeting next Tuesday
- ***Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School***
Enrollment down, 3 families moved away over summer; 2 smaller classes which presents teaching opportunities for teachers; OIMY program – teachers excited about start up; new administrative assistant, Katja Korinth and new EA, Jennifer Hughes
- ***Pender Islands Elem./Sec. School***
No report. Trustee Williams absent.
- ***Phoenix Elementary School***
Waitlist of over 30; students building tarp shelters; team-building activities; want to partner with Saturna; some staff changes – addition of Melissa Hingston, Michelle Spencer and Richard Magnusson; PE, music, swimming; garden is incredible – making homemade borscht from garden ingredients; playground looking good
- ***Saltspring Island Middle School***
Community week – students grouped together; Terry Fox run on Friday followed by BBQ; new band teacher, Michelle Footz, former GISS graduate, starting jazz band after school; PAC meeting next week; renovations to the student centre – entrance transformed and work continues on improvements; new library CEA, Larry Melious
- ***Salt Spring Elementary School***
Extra classroom, new teachers, everything settling in well; great renovations
- ***Saturna Elementary School/SEEC***
2 students; new principal, Shannon Johnston – working with Phoenix School to link kids together, updated website; met with MYSEEC and SEEC groups to look at ways of working together; Terry Fox run
SEEC – 13 students; field trip to Whistler
- ***Windsor House School***
Mandatory parent meeting tonight; BBQ and cleanup of outdoor space

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

(a) **Welcome Back**

Chair McKenzie welcomed everyone to the 2013/2014 school year. She updated everyone on GITA and CUPE bargaining: GITA bargaining is on hold at present; CUPE bargaining has begun; government has off loaded the cost increases for CUPE to school district Boards. The new school

calendar regulations are now in place; the local school calendar Notice of Motion will come forward to the October Board meeting following discussion of the research study prepared by independent researcher, Martin Blakesley. The Board is only required to have 30-day public consultation process regarding the local school calendar option; however, the Board's goal is to offer the opportunity for open consultation as soon as possible after the beginning of each school year.

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

(a) **Learning in School District #64 (Gulf Islands)**

Superintendent Halstead will include information on learning in the district at each Board meeting and encourage other staff members to present. This information will also be available on the home page of the district website under "Learning for All". She would like the focus to be on:

- How we can best meet the needs of all our students and how do we know we are meeting these needs?
- How do we ensure they have the foundation skills to access their options for learning and education?
- What structures and processes lead to collaborative and engaged schools where teachers are committed to growing their practice and expanding their repertoires to support the learning of all students, and how can this development be sustained?
- How do we effectively work together to ensure learning for all?
- How do we share information?
- Involvement of education partners.

(b) **BAA Courses**

Three locally developed courses for trades' students have been submitted for Board Authority/Approval (BAA): Trades Math 11, Construction Orientation and Retention for Employment (CORE) 11, Level 1 and Construction Orientation and Retention for Employment (CORE) 11, Level 2. These courses will increase the options in the trades for School District #64 (Gulf Islands) students. All courses will begin in the second semester.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the locally developed course, Construction Orientation and Retention for Employment (CORE) 11, Level 1 as presented.

CARRIED 46/13

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the locally developed course, Construction Orientation and Retention for Employment (CORE) 11, Level 2 as presented.

CARRIED 47/13

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the locally developed course Trades Math 11 as presented.

CARRIED 48/13

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

(a) **Summer Works**

Tom Graham, Supervisor of Building Service and OH & S Departments reported out on the maintenance upgrades done by his crew over the summer months and that of Dave Henshall, Manager of Facilities who was not able to attend the meeting. He said the work done during the summer months is related to the quality of learning and also involves regular and pro-active maintenance. The work included:

- **Pender** – sprinkler upgrade, floor covering repairs, gym floor stripped and lines repainted, sink upgrade in washrooms
- **Mayne** – replaced single pane windows with thermal panes, gym floor stripped and lines repainted
- **Galiano** – exterior deck repainted, other general maintenance
- **Saturna** – septic tank upgrade

- **Fernwood** – exterior painting, gym floor refinished, floor covering replacements, exterior lighting upgraded
- **SSE** – work done on the learning services centre, water damage repairs on roof, widened bus turnaround for new buses, water fountain upgrades
- **SIMS** – floor covering replacement in computer lab, work done on general office area, upgrades to multi purpose area, water fountain upgrades
- **Fulford** – interior corridor lighting and exterior lighting upgrades, storage container upgrades
- **Phoenix Elementary** – replaced floor covering in portable, creek diversion for wider parking area and student safety
- **GISS** – water fountain upgrade, sound attenuation in 5 classrooms and exterior wood shop compound, greenhouse prep done, solar panels installed on the gym’s roof are working well

Mr. Graham thanked the trustees and Mr. Scotvold for all the support he and his crews receive.

Chair McKenzie thanked Mr. Graham and Mr. Henshall and their crews for all their work in keeping our buildings and work areas safe and in great shape.

(b) 2012/2013 Audited Financial Statements

Ms. Rodgers presented and explained in detail the revenue and expenditures of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2013. She also informed Board members of the changes in the accounting policies and how this affects the reporting process. She indicated the Special Purpose Operations deficit of \$526,491 has been eliminated and the total operating surplus is \$784,787.

Ms. Rodgers encouraged anyone with questions to contact her any time during her office hours.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the Audited Financial Statements for the 2012/2013 school year as presented.

CARRIED 49/13

(c) Water Taxi Tender(s)

Gulf Islands Water Taxi, Ltd. submitted the only tender for water transport service. The total cost of water taxi service outlined in their submission is as follows (GST is not included in the prices):

- three-year contract (2013/16), route 1 and 2 = \$652,300 year 1 and 2; \$717,600 year 3,
- monthly contract (2013/16), route 3 = \$14,500 year 1 and 2; \$16,000 year 3.

Mr. Scotvold made the recommendation to enter into a new contract based on the tender submitted. The benchmark for fuel as at August 19, 2013 was \$1.55/litre at the Ganges fuel dock.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education accepts the tender proposal for water transport service as submitted by Gulf Islands Water Taxi Ltd.

CARRIED 50/13

(d) 2013 Capital Plan Submission

Secretary Treasurer Rod Scotvold presented the Five Year Capital Plan Summary for the 2013/2014 school year. A 72-passenger bus presently being used on Galiano will be brought over to Salt Spring Island. A 46-passenger bus replacement will be purchased for Galiano for a total of \$98,000.00. The bus will be available for the next school year.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the Five Year Capital Plan Summary for the 2013/2014 capital year as presented.

CARRIED 51/13

CUPE President Larry Melious departed the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

(e) Approval for District Seismic Upgrading

A letter received from Minister of Education Peter Fassbender, approving an expenditure of up to \$653,614 from the Ministry of Education restricted capital reserve to fund a structural upgrade at Salt Spring Elementary School and non-structural upgrades at several other district schools. These funds available to our district are surplus monies from a 2009/10 seismic upgrade completed at Saltspring Island Middle School.

(f) WiFi in Schools

A letter received from Dr. Kendall, Provincial Health Officer in response to Mr. Livingston's letter requesting information on any significant health risks associated with the use of wireless technology in district schools. In Dr. Kendall's professional opinion, he states, "...the consensus of the majority of independent international panels that have reviewed the existing data and research is that there is no convincing evidence of adverse health effects from these exposures." He also stated that the research is ongoing and "if any issue of concern arose regarding a change in risk status, the information would be conveyed to the authorities and the public." Mr. Livingston shared this information with Salt Spring Island parent, Cecile Petra.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Policy Committee

Policy Committee Chair Rob Pingle presented the revision to Policy #725, Travel Expenses, which was sent out as a Notice of Motion in June 2013 to all partner groups.

It was moved and seconded that Policy #725, Travel Expenses, be approved as revised.

CARRIED 52/13

11. OTHER BUSINESS

12. QUESTION PERIOD

13. NEXT MEETING DATES

(a) Committee Day – September 25, 2013 at the School Board Office

(c) Regular Board Meeting – October 09, 2013 at the Saturna Elementary School/SEEC

14. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

CARRIED 53/13

Date: October 9, 2013

May McKenzie
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold
Secretary Treasurer