



**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION**  
**Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)**  
**PENDER ISLANDS ELEMENTARY SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**April 15, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.**

<b>Present:</b>	May McKenzie	Chairperson
	Nancy Macdonald	Trustee
	Shelley Lawson	Trustee
	Anna Herlitz	Trustee
	John Wakefield	Trustee
	Lisa Halstead	Superintendent of Schools
	Rod Scotvold	Secretary Treasurer
	Linda Underwood	Director of Instruction, Human Resources
	Doug Livingston	Director of Instruction, Learning Services
	Cindy Rodgers	Manager of Finance
	Dawne Fennell	Executive Assistant
	Cameron Fraser	GIPVPA Representative
	Larry Melious	CUPE President
	Deborah Nostdal	GITA President
	Andy Nowak	PSI 2020
	David Boyd	PSI 2020
	Jenny McLean	SSI parent
	Jenn Kaila	PAC Chair
	Mary Reher	Music Therapist
	Bruce Boland	Pender parent
	Carole Nicholson	PI Child Care Society
	Leanne Sutherland	Teacher
	Paulette Zacharias	Teacher
	Katrin-Liis Graham	Teacher
<b>Regrets:</b>	Rob Pingle	Vice Chairperson
	Susanne Middleditch	Trustee
	Elizabeth Nolan	Driftwood Representative

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 2015 04 15, be adopted with the following addition(s):

- 4 (a) Pender Island Solar Initiative (PSI)
- 8 (f) Field Trip Request #120

CARRIED 32/15

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2015 03 11, be approved as amended.

CARRIED 33/15

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Special Board Meeting, Public Session held 2015 03 16, be approved as presented.

CARRIED 34/15

**3. BUSINESS ARISING**

No new business arising.

4. **DELEGATIONS**

(a) **Pender Island Solar Initiative (PSI 2020)**

Andy Nowak and David Boyd spoke to Board members about the new Pender Island Solar Initiative (PSI 2020) that was formed about nine months ago. Their goal is to have solar panels on all public buildings on Pender by 2020. The first installation of 39 solar panels was mid-March 2015 on the Pender Island recycling building. A \$26,000 budget included hardware and labour costs (at 50% cost) and was raised in approximately eight hours. “New to You” provided \$20,000 and the rest was raised through community efforts. They have a dedicated web page that monitors panels and shows usage. They are now looking for a new project and would like to partnership with the district to install solar panels on the roof of Pender School, which gets sun most of the day. This venture would be cost neutral to the district; PSI will do all the fundraising, site assessment, provide a plan and oversee the project. They feel this would be a great learning opportunity for students. They would also like to see the revenue used to finance scholarships for students interested in the trades and ecology or be directed to specific areas for school use as decided by staff/district. Chair McKenzie encouraged them to get in touch with Mr. Scotvold for further discussion. Ms. McKenzie and Trustee Herlitz thanked them for their presentation.

(b) **Jenny McLean**

Jenny McLean, a Salt Spring Island resident and parent, shared her views with Board members about Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission’s (SSITC) proposed plan to develop a pathway on the north side of Rainbow Road. She is particularly concerned about the plans for the area in front of the maintenance building located on Rainbow Road and whether or not the engineer, Keith Wahlstrom, who was first involved with the project will still be available to oversee the pathway construction. Chair McKenzie stated the district is no longer involved with the detailed planning of this project; however, the CRD called recently to set up an appointment to discuss the project status. More information will be forthcoming.

(c) **Bruce Boland**

Mr. Boland shared his concern with Board members regarding the recent available funding for the alternate class for older Spring Leaves kids but he would like to see funding for a teacher to support the SLC students so they can remain on Pender without having to transfer to GISS. Superintendent Halstead explained that enrollment has decreased, therefore staffing has also decreased. However, a meeting is scheduled for early next month to look at how service can be improved for students on the Outer Islands; how the SLC program can be reinstated with fewer costs.

He also spoke of his concern with the use of wood chips in the playground area rather than pea gravel. He stated mould spores are a common factor in playground closures where wood chips are used and feels there could be an increase in student illness and absenteeism because of them. Mr. Scotvold will look into the pros and cons of using wood chips vs. pea gravel.

5. **TRUSTEE’S SCHOOL REPORTS**

➤ ***Fernwood Elementary School***

Interest expressed in the new proposed primary multi-grade program; yoga classes ongoing; ukulele club; sexual health education continues; hug a tree survivor program; art gallery program; jump rope for heart; April 24 Pro D – staff working on visioning with external coach; making “touch tank” aquarium

➤ ***Fulford Community Elementary School***

April 23 talent show; jump rope for heart April 10; Rock Kamp on May 20; staff working on visioning process for next school year; SS Foundation has awarded them a garden grant; May 7 – Spring Dance, big fundraiser, well-attended

- ***Galiano Community School***  
Four new students enrolled after spring break, plus 5 more students coming in September; primary class released chum chums; Trustee Lawson went to library to listen to stories with primary class; intermediate class project “My Sense of Place”; student-led conferencing – 100% participation by students and families; working on successes as a staff, comments linked to report cards; SPC met yesterday; middle years students keen to stay at Galiano School and continue as high school students on Galiano
- ***Gulf Islands Secondary School***  
Improv team has gone to Ottawa for Nationals; grades 10 & 12 completing online satisfaction surveys; sr. and jr. girls’ soccer underway; rowers training on St. Mary Lake early in a.m.; April 21, PAC hosting a parent workshop re: youth and sexuality; April 23, music department hosting a choir from California; mid-term report cards April 23; April 28 & 29, gr. 10 students participating in P.A.R.T.Y. program; April 30, ICBC road safety presentation
- ***Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School***  
Parent-teacher conferences last week; mapping on Mayne Island; what makes “community”; math in primary class; home reading program; lots of books missing from library, students investigating; 100<sup>th</sup> day of school yesterday; intermediate class field trips, students learning about budgeting, organizing and planning trips; math in secondary class; PE – dodge ball, football; talks on sexual health continue; OIMY on Galiano next week; presentations for parents; Cindy Clark presenting workshop called Parenting on the Edge
- ***Pender Islands Elem./Sec. School***  
Partnership with Ptarmigan still in place to continue band in school; grant received for garden; parent-teacher interviews; transitioning students for high school next year; student-led conferences; PAC focused on fundraising – Winter Carnival and Auction – raised \$9,500; looking at ways to utilize money raised through PAC – might be for playground, nature-based; salmon eggs have recently hatched; gymnastics opportunities past 3 weeks; Spring Leaves making pizza for students; students participating in 10 km walk/run in Victoria; wheelchair basketball; May 21, third annual track and field events on Pender; boat pro in June; field trips to Ucluelet and Camp Thunderbird
- ***Phoenix Elementary School***  
No report. Trustee Pingle absent.
- ***Saltspring Island Middle School***  
Sexual health education, training staff on April 24 Pro D day; R+R finished this year; Principal Taylor and Vice Principal Shugar visiting elementary schools to help grade 5 students with transition, then same students will visit SIMS later in May; school dance May 21, fundraising event
- ***Salt Spring Elementary School***  
No report. Trustee Pingle absent.
- ***Saturna Elementary School/SEEC***  
No report. Trustee Middleditch absent.  
***SEEC***  
No report. Trustee Middleditch absent.
- ***Windsor House School***  
No report. Trustee Middleditch absent.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **Letter from Baker/Byron Family**

Superintendent Halstead spoke to the letter received from the Baker/Bryon family who wanted to share the concerns they have regarding the SWOVA R+R program delivered on SSI. The student met with Ms. Halstead and they discussed his concerns. She referenced Procedure 1035, *District Procedure for Parent Concerns*, which he followed. Ms. Halstead informed him she would bring his concerns to the Board as the Board agreed to enter into a partnership with SWOVA in 2000. The Board has directed Ms. Halstead to proceed and begin discussion with SWOVA with regards to resolving the concerns about the R+R program. Chair McKenzie extended a thank you to the student for bringing his concerns and letter forward and she will follow up with a personal letter.

**7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**(a) Bill 11 Highlights**

The Ministry has proposed amendments to the School Act, the Independent School Act and the Teachers' Act [Bill 11, the Education Statutes Amendment Act (2015)] that focus on four objectives:

1. Building a framework for continuing professional development;
2. Facilitating delivery of shared services among school districts;
3. Improving the accountability framework for student learning; and
4. Aligning the provisions on the disclosure of student data with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The Ministry states, "Bill 11 will help school districts reduce overhead costs, establish a modern framework for teacher professional development and put a stronger focus on accountability for student outcomes".

Chair McKenzie stated that with the new changes to several areas of legislation we don't know exactly what this will mean for the district at this point in time. The BCSTA AGM is being held April 16-19 in Vancouver and more information will be forthcoming. Provincially trustees are concerned about the lack of collaboration with school boards and districts as the bill appears to give the Minister of Education incredible power over school boards and teachers and how education is to be delivered in BC without adding more funding.

**(b) Community Forum – May 22**

The Community Forum is planned for Friday, May 22 in the GISS gym from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The focus will be transforming curriculum and assessment in School District 64 with informal presentations with the whole group first followed by break out sessions dependent on individual interests. Ms. Halstead has had a meeting with the committee already and another one is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21. She states the agenda will be out early May. Trustee Lawson asked if there is the possibility of bringing the forum to the Outer Islands through the use of technology for anyone not able to attend on SSI. Ms. Halstead will look into this option.

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

**(a) Learning in School District No. 64**

Ms. Halstead shared highlights:

- The ELT is continuing with conversations that began at the District Retreat in March
- New proposed program motions (Fulford, Fernwood and Pender) passed at the March Board meeting. A number of people expressed interest in these programs and there will likely be enough enrollment to ensure program financial viability at all three sites
- Recognition of the dynamic, innovative and creative programs and teachers in the district already. Lots of wonderful things are happening at our schools and in our classrooms. Looking at ways to draw more people in, add diversity, and enhance already existing programs

**(b) Field Trip Request #104**

A curricular field trip request from Pender Islands School teacher Liis Graham to take 23 Grades 7-8 students camping at Surf Junction Campground in Ucluelet June 8-12, 2015 to participate in outdoor activities and to learn about the west coast ecosystem.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves field trip #104 for Pender Islands School staff and students to travel to Ucluelet June 8-12, 2015 to participate in outdoor activities and to learn about the west coast ecosystem.

CARRIED 35/15

**(c) Field Trip Request #109**

A curricular field trip request from Mayne Island School teacher Melissa Hingston to take 6-12 Grades 4-8 students to Camp Thunderbird June 8-11, 2015 to participate in outdoor and team building activities.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves field trip #109 for Mayne Island School staff and students to travel to Camp Thunderbird June 8-11, 2015 to participate in outdoor and team building activities.

CARRIED 36/15

**(d) Field Trip Request #111**

A curricular field trip request from Principal Steve Dunsmuir to take 12 Grades 9-12 students in the SEEC program on a BC road trip to Whistler, Williams Lake, Quesnel, Wells and Clearwater June 1 to 10, 2015 to culminate the semester and celebrate learning.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves field trip #111 for SEEC staff and students to travel to Whistler, Williams Lake, Quesnel, Wells and Clearwater June 1 to 10, 2015 to culminate the semester and celebrate learning.

CARRIED 37/15

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

A curricular field trip request from Pender Islands School teacher Cheryl Boland to take 21 Grades 5 and 6 students to Camp Thunderbird June 8-11, 2015 to participate in outdoor and team building activities.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves field trip #116 for Pender Islands School staff and students to travel to Camp Thunderbird June 8-11, 2015 to participate in outdoor and team building activities.

CARRIED 38/15

**(f) Field Trip Request #120**

A curricular, extra-curricular and athletic field trip request from Mayne Island School teacher Melissa Hingston to take up to 12 Grades 4-8 students to Tofino Pacific Rim National Park, Coombs, Port Alberni and Ucluelet May 25 to 28, 2015 to participate in outdoor and team building activities.

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves field trip #120 for Mayne Island School staff and students to travel to Tofino Pacific Rim National Park, Coombs, Port Alberni and Ucluelet May 25 to 28, 2015 to participate in outdoor and team building activities.

CARRIED 39/15

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

**(a) Monthly Expenditure Report**

The monthly expenditure report, as at March 31, 2015 indicates that with 0.75 of the year completed, 0.7067 of the budget has been expended. We are 4.3 % below budget at this time, At year end, we will likely be 2% below budget.

**(b) Operating Grant Highlights**

The Ministry released the Operating Grant for 2015/2016 in mid-March which included funding for the labour settlement and administrative savings. The grant shows a reduction for unique geographic funding of \$203,000 for the loss of Outer Island students and reduced funding of \$221,000 for the loss of 30 regular students and three special needs students. No changes will be made until after September 30 at which time the district will know the final enrollment numbers for the 2015/2016 school year.

**10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**(a) Policy Committee**

Policy 890, *School Fees* and Policy 973, *Smoking & Tobacco Restriction* are tabled for approval until the May 13, 2015 Board meeting.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business arising.

**12. QUESTION PERIOD**

GITA President Deborah Nostdal asked if there would be any changes made to the 2015/2016 local school calendar. Chair McKenzie stated the motion regarding the 2015/2016 school calendar was passed at the March 11 Board meeting and it will not be re-visited due to time constraints and other emergent issues that happen every year at this time. However, she said developing a memorandum of understanding is doable regarding a change of language in Article D.22.5 of the Collective Agreement, which refers to spring break.

**13. NEXT MEETING DATES**

- (a) Committee Day – April 29, 2015 at the School Board Office
- (b) Regular Board Meeting – May 13, 2015 at Mayne Island School

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

CARRIED 40/15

Date: May 13, 2015

May McKenzie  
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold  
Secretary Treasurer