



MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE
2019 06 12

Present:	Rob Pingle	Chairperson
	Tisha Boulter	Trustee
	Stefanie Denz	Trustee
	Janelle Lawson	Trustee
	Greg Lucas	Trustee
	Chaya Katrensky	Trustee
	Scott Benwell	Superintendent of Schools
	Linda Underwood	Acting Assistant Superintendent
	Doug Livingston	Director of Instruction, Learning Services
	Jesse Guy	Secretary Treasurer
	Lori Deacon	Executive Assistant
	Larry Melious	CUPE President
	Deb Nostdal	GITA President
	Shannon Johnston	Fernwood Acting Principal
	Kelda Logan	Fernwood Principal
Sarah Rae	DPAC representative	
Mark Kitteringham	Driftwood representative	
Sheri Wakefield	International Programs, GISS	
Dave Henshall	District Facilities	
Sean Norgard	SSIYSA	
Doug Wardell	Architect, SSIYSA feasibility study	
Magnolia Pauker	SIMS music program parent	
Kim Thomson	SIMS music program parent	
Fraser Byers	Student representative	
Chris Humphreys	GISS parent	
Regrets:	Shelley Lawson	Vice Chairperson

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Pingle. He acknowledged that this meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish people – huy ch q'u.

Acknowledgement of retirements this year: 391 accumulated years of service to the District. A reminder that grad ceremonies take place on Saturday at 3:00 pm.

The media is in attendance. This meeting is being recorded.

1. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Additions:

7(c) Galiano Activity Centre Society Soccer Association – Request to Serve Alcohol

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2019 06 12 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED 74/19



2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2019 05 08 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 75/19

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Special Board Meeting, Public Session held 2019 05 13 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 76/19

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Special Board Meeting, Public Session held 2019 05 22 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 77/19

3. **IN-CAMERA SUMMARY**

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt the In-Camera Summary of 2019 05 08 as presented.

CARRIED 78/19

4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **CRD – 2019 Walk & Wheel to School Week**

Letter from the CRD regarding 2019 Walk and Wheel to School Week.

(b) **Retired Teachers of Ontario (Vancouver Island District No. 47) – Request for Support**

Request from RTO District 47 for a letter of support for a grant proposal to provide reader kits to the public library.

6. **DELEGATIONS**

(a) **Fernwood Elementary School Learning Celebration**

Principals Shannon Johnston and Kelda Logan highlighted Fernwood School values, goals and aspirations for improvement. The presentation emphasised Indigenous Education and connections with students and families. Fernwood staff is using report card data, individual interviews and Connection surveys to identify vulnerable students. School goals aim to improve reading and writing, and to ensure students feel joy at school and connection to staff. Volunteers, peer-reading coaches, and the implementation of school-wide writes have had significant influence on realized improvements in both reading and writing.

Next steps include adjustments to literacy interventions, increased staff involvement in creating specific literacy goals, and continued efforts to ensure students feel connected at school.

(b) **International Program – Sheri Wakefield**

Sheri Wakefield presented on the International Program at GISS. She shared a brief promotional video and explained that 10% of the student body at GISS is international students. The four-day instructional week allows extra time for special activities and certificate programs. Recruiting trips support and grow the program. Ms. Wakefield stated that her main goal is to create a positive relationship with families and staff, beginning with establishing a Program Advisory Committee, New Student Orientation, and Team Building Day on first day of school.



Student behaviour must follow school rules, program rules, and homestay rules, while Canadian Law always applies. The program has enrolled 72 students (60 FTE) for next year.

(c) **Salt Spring Island Youth Soccer Association (SSIYSA) – Field Improvements**

Sean Norgard and Doug Wardell presented on possible improvements to either SIMS or GISS fields. An artificial turf field would bring local soccer programs up to par with other associations. The Board approved the feasibility study in December for the SIMS playing field. SSIYSA spent \$15,000 and expanded the study to include both GISS and SIMS fields. The study details cost projections, analysis of synthetic turf vs natural grass fields, and maintenance costs, and identifies all parties and regulations that would be impacted by the proposed improvements.

GISS lower field was identified in the study as the better fit for upgrade by reasons of significant water savings, limited yearly use, and lower construction costs. The proposed surface material, TPE, is non-toxic, has no smell, creates no run off, and produces no static charge.

SSIYSA is committed to raising the funds to build the field if the Board agrees to the proposal. Optional upgrades for consideration include the addition of scoreboards and change room facilities.

(d) **SIMS/GISS Music Programs – Kim Thompson**

Kim Thompson shared a presentation entitled “Establishing the Tone” celebrating the music program at SIMS. She stated that the current music teacher has worked hard to rebuild the music program. The request was made to the Board to increase teaching time allocated to Band and Choir at SIMS in order to support the time and effort required to organize/execute rehearsals, performances, music trips, instrument rentals, guest performers/instructors, and fundraising.

Ms. Thompson stated how lucky the district is to have such an involved music/band director and that increasing FTE would create program sustainability. A petition has been circulating and will be shared for the Board’s consideration.

7. **CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT**

(a) **2019 Walk & Wheel to School Week**

The request was made, through correspondence from the CRD, for the Board’s support of 2019 Walk and Wheel to School Week.

Moved and seconded that the Board proclaims October 7-11, 2019 as ‘Walk & Wheel to School Week’.

CARRIED 79/19

(b) **Salt Spring Island Youth Soccer Association**

The Board considered the SSIYSA delegate request to partner on improvements to the GISS lower field.

Moved and seconded that the Board agrees in principle to partner with the SSIYSA on the improvements to the GISS lower field to a synthetic turf field with lights, on the condition that funding for the project is coordinated and sourced by SSIYSA and a shared use agreement is approved by the District and SSIYSA.

CARRIED 80/19

(c) **Galiano Activity Centre Society Soccer Association – Request to Serve Alcohol**

The Galiano Activity Centre Society Soccer Association is planning to hold its annual Todd Wolfe Memorial Soccer Tournament on August 24 and would like to host a beer garden on school property.

Moved and seconded that the Board approves the Galiano Activity Centre Society Soccer Association request to



serve alcohol at its annual Todd Wolfe Memorial Soccer Tournament August 24, 2019 at Galiano Community School.

CARRIED 81/19

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

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

Superintendent Benwell presented on the fiscal realities of the District, past and present, and the financial pressures that will impact the District moving forward, including decreased enrolment and withdrawal from funding protection. Focus and priority remain working towards a system that supports high and sustainable performance. Dr. Benwell emphasised the importance of working within our means to provide for students across the district and inspire the work to be done. Our District will be defined by how we manage our responsibilities and the decisions we make in the years to come.

(b) **Staffing Update**

EA selection occurred and CUPE vacancies have been posted. Teaching vacancies will be posted early next week.

(c) **Bargaining Update**

Local teacher bargaining has concluded. There is one more meeting with CUPE scheduled to finalize language before the district and CUPE sign off on a renewed agreement.

Deb Nostdal expressed concerns about Provincial bargaining and the proposed movement towards a prevalence model for student services funding. Information is now available publicly.

(d) **BAA Course Approvals**

BAA courses are learning frameworks that provide opportunities for our schools to offer content outside of Ministry curriculum. Dr. Benwell recommended that all BAA courses submitted by approved.

Advanced Performing Arts – GISPA Dance 11
Advanced Performing Arts – GISPA Dance 12
Advanced Performing Arts – GISPA Music 11
Advanced Performing Arts – GISPA Music 12
Advanced Performing Arts – GISPA Theatre 11
Advanced Performing Arts – GISPA Theatre 12
English Language Learning 11
English Language Learning 12
Leadership 10
Leadership 11
Leadership 12
Peer Tutoring 11
Peer Tutoring 12
Psychology 12
Team Sports Specialist (Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball) 11
Team Sports Specialist (Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball) 12

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education approved the BAA courses as presented.



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CARRIED 82/19

(e) **2019/20 School Fees**

Schools are required to request approval for additional school fees as outlined by Board policy and the *School Act*. Fee schedules proposed for the 2019/20 are the same as last year and include supplies for \$30 or less and option planners for \$10 or less. GISS is requesting a student athletic fee of \$25. SEEC is requesting an optional \$50 activity fee, a \$15 Athletic/rec fee, and a \$10 Marine Kayak Club fee. Schools may request additional field trip costs throughout the year but have financial assistance in place for those students and families who may not be able to afford the expense.

Moved and seconded that the Board approves the School Fees schedule for the 2019/20 school year as presented.

CARRIED 83/19

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

(a) **Monthly Expenditure Report**

Secretary Treasurer Guy shared the monthly expenditure report for May 2019. As of May 30th, the District is 2.44% within budget. Ms. Guy also shared the year end forecast report in conjunction with the monthly expenditure report. The yearend forecast report has a projected annual operating surplus of \$22,576 for June 30, 2019. This includes the retirement of the accumulated deficit of \$250,498.

(b) **2020/2021 Five Year Capital Plan Bylaw (3 Readings)**

Dave Henshall presented the five year capital plan itemizing mechanical and seismic upgrades, roof and window replacements, lighting upgrades and building playground equipment.

Ms. Guy read the Five Year Capital Plan Bylaw for 2020/21.

Unanimous agreement that Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2019/20-CPSD64-01 for 2020/21 receive three readings at this time.

CARRIED 84/19

Moved and seconded that Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2019/2020-CPSD64-01 received first reading.

CARRIED 85/19

Moved and seconded that Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2019/2020-CPSD64-01 received second reading.

CARRIED 86/19

Moved and seconded that Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2019/2020 CPSD64-01 received third and final reading and be approved.

CARRIED 87/19

Chair Pingle reminded trustees that a motion is required if the Board meeting is to extend beyond three hours in length as per policy.

Moved and seconded that the meeting be extended beyond three hours and adjourn by 4:00 p.m.

CARRIED 88/19



(c) **2020/2021 Five Year Capital Plan Bylaw (3 Readings)**

Ms. Guy presented the draft 2019/2020 Budget. Specific reduction in revenue and expenses stem from reduced FTE student funding due to the closure of Windsor House School.

Unanimous agreement that the 2019/2020 Budget Bylaw receive three readings at this time.

CARRIED 89/19

Moved and seconded that Budget Bylaw No. received first reading.

CARRIED 90/19

Moved and seconded that Budget Bylaw No. received second reading.

CARRIED 91/19

Moved and seconded that Budget Bylaw No. received third and final reading and be approved.

CARRIED 92/19

(d) **Excluded Staff Benefits Plans**

Ms. Guy shared a breakdown of the cost of benefit plans for excluded staff. BCPSEA has allowed for districts to standardize plans across employee groups. The differential will cost the District approximately \$7,400 in addition to adjustments that would be paid regardless of any changes to plans.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the normalization of benefits plans for excluded staff as approved by BCPSEA.

CARRIED 93/19

(e) **Water Taxi Bid Process**

The three-year water taxi contract is set to expire. The District is set to begin the process for seeking applicants to provide water taxi transportation in accordance with the BC BID process. A new or renewed contract may include language for amendments in the third year.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education directs staff to find a provider for water taxi transportation services as per the BC BID process.

CARRIED 94/19

(f) **MCFD Childcare Spaces - Project Selection Criteria**

The Ministry of Children and Family Development is providing funding for new childcare spaces to be built in partnership with school districts. Fair and non-biased criteria are needed to establish a clear framework to guide the proposal selection process.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the selection process for MCFD Child Care Space proposals.

CARRIED 95/19



10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(a) **Committee of the Whole**

Moved by consensus that the Committee of the Whole summary 2019 05 22 be received.

CARRIED 96/19

(b) **Human Resources Committee**

Moved by consensus that the Human Resources Committee summary 2019 05 22 be received.

CARRIED 97/19

(c) **Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee**

Moved by consensus that the Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee summary 2019 05 22 be received.

CARRIED 98/19

(d) **Education Committee**

Moved by consensus that the Education Committee summary 2019 05 22 be received.

CARRIED 99/19

11. **TRUSTEES' SCHOOL REPORTS**

Trustee School Reports were received. Topic: Celebrate by highlighting the greatest success/achievement(s) at your school this year.

Fernwood Elementary School

Fernwood Elementary year goals around the school growth plan focussed on literacy. 25 kids were assessed in September to not be meeting expectations in their reading. For writing 32 students were not meeting expectations. Looking at May and June assessments all of the students have since improved. The approach used was focussing on professional development; teachers worked on instructional strategies such 6 plus one writing traits and whole school writes. At each monthly staff meeting collaboration time was taken in the staff room to review the goals, sharing and looking at data and comparing notes, especially from the whole school writes. Teachers report anecdotally that they feel they have grown and benefitted through this collaborative work.

The second goal for Fernwood School had was around social emotional health. Staff wanted to maintain a small school feel despite being bigger. In term one, all students were surveyed, looking at connections, and level of joy. From the 200 responses, 44 kids were unhappy. In response, the staff started an outreach project. At least two adults reached out to each kid, creating adult friends, to support kids in their social belonging. From a recent survey almost all students who had not been so happy have improved.

Using targets, intentions, interventions and assessment, Fernwood Elementary is successful in meeting their year's goals.

Fulford Community Elementary School

The school had a great year with community and staff all working hard to support the students and allow them to become their best.

Students throughout the school made improvements in writing with the 6+1 traits being embraced by all. Workshops with staff allowed for a narrowing of focus while adding new ideas and approaches to maximizing student success. The school wide write shows growth for almost all students and allows staff to focus their efforts on those needing additional support. Besides seeing tangible student improvement in writing there has also been an



improvement in the attitudes of the students towards writing. In line with the writing improvements the students with literacy supports have also seen great improvements.

Galiano Community School

Celebrate! So many things to celebrate as the 2019/20 school year comes to an end.

Our recent Galiano Community School Writers Festival was a testament to the effort put towards the School Plan goal of improved writing outcomes for students. Using monthly School Wide Writes events, professional development opportunities and collaborative assessments, we are proud to witness achievements as students share their writing with the community.

June 11 is our Community-based Elders Lunch, where students celebrate the seniors in our community by hosting, preparing (and cleaning up!) a lunch at the South Hall, with the goal of sharing food and stories in an intergenerational setting.

Our Year End Celebration will be the last day of school, with appreciation for students who are transitioning into different classrooms and schools as well as staff who are retiring. This is always an opportunity for the community to join the school body in celebrating another year of learning at Galiano Community School.

Gulf Islands Secondary School

The biggest success being celebrated is that the staff stuck to the growth plans to support Grade 12+ students towards completing their dogwoods. Of the 15 students tracked (phoning, emailing, 'keeping on them'), 10 of them have been captured and will complete graduation requirements.

The other area of success has been with the implementation of early interventions with referred Grade 9's that may be at risk of falling through the cracks. The intention is to capture students early enough that we don't have Grade 12+ to track. This has been the work of the school-based teams meeting regularly and targeting combined efforts to indemnify unique needs and build in those supports. This might be academic support, helping with time management, or providing food at lunch time.

Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School

We have a lot to celebrate at Mayne School this month. We will be saying goodbye to our Grade 8 students who will be leaving us to attend high school. There will be a school community dinner celebration held to honour those students.

We are also looking forward to the last day of school and our Learning Celebration. This event is an opportunity to celebrate each student and their successes over the past year. At this event there will also be at least four different awards given out. The awards celebrate students who demonstrate such qualities as empathy and kindness, who have improved academically and socially, who exemplify good sportsmanship and citizenship as well as an award that honours members of the community who have made an outstanding contribution on behalf of the students.

This month has also been a time of celebrating family and community. VIP day was hosted by the students to honour parents and family members. The students prepared snacks, games and a craft to make with their guests and everyone, both students, staff and guests participated in a game of California kickball. The Lions Club sponsored Bike Rodeo was also a great success which was followed by our school Fun Day, which was hosted by the PAC and featured a giant Slip n Slide which was a huge hit with all the students.

Pender Islands Elementary Secondary School



This year we started out of the gates in September with a strong focus towards raising overall reading writing and numeracy performance throughout K-8 with one unifying system that carries forth towards each successive grade level. Primary readers were afforded brand new text which have been designed to spark our new student's efforts.

In March our whole school participated in our yearly science fair. Students set up their amazingly creative projects in the gym and community members were invited to judge. In April a number of our senior students participated in the UVIC Science fair and had outstanding results competing with fellow students from across Canada.

Students from our primary and grade 4/5 class used a new incubating system to incubate a clutch of over two dozen eggs. Students had to turn the eggs 4 times throughout the day to maintain their viability and in the end almost everyone of the eggs survived and turned into a baby chick before being adopted to forever homes.

In May we had a week of wheelchair basketball and hosted outer islands and students from SS as well as attending Outer island track and field meet involving Pender, Maine and Galiano. Students put in strong efforts towards participating in running, jumping and throwing events.

At the end of May ten groups made up of 57 participants were involved in the "students for Salish sea summit". A three day conference event to raise awareness about environmental issues surrounding our Salish Sea.

A First Nations Pit Cook will be held on June 17th involving Pender the outer islands, community members, our Tsawout friends and elders.

Additionally, our grade 8's will do "Boat Pro" for a week and all will receive their pleasure operator certificates, while grade 7's will spend several days obtaining their Food Safe Certificates.

We have had numerous opportunities for whole school and community building work, such as the RCMP, PIFR and PAC organized Bike Rodeo, focusing on bike safety, the Remembrance Day Legion led, candle lighting ceremony, the "Farmers Institute Works" program helping students to plant a variety of veggies as well as pumpkin carving time.

Last we celebrate Pender's own 2019 graduates.

Phoenix Elementary School

Two major school growth goals for Phoenix were in literacy and numeracy, carrying on from the previous year. The staff developed hands on lessons, used ready, set learn and EPRA, as well as other strategies and assessments. Students have experienced growth in both areas. On another note I attended the Phoenix Elementary end of the year volunteer appreciation tea, which celebrated all the community school stands for. The students served guests tea, coffee, and treats, while a cabaret of student talent entertained. The MC's led us through performances of singing, jokes, magic tricks, acrobatics, dance and skits. Students were focussed, organized, very engaged, enthusiastic, entertaining and very proud!

Salt Spring Elementary School

The year always ends with a celebration of the Grade 5 students transitioning to their next educational opportunity. This year teachers focused on literacy with reading tutors and oral language groups and the students leaving the school are seen to have come a long way in their literacy.

The school is also proud to have engaged all students in beautification projects with public art projects, garden improvements and the planting of trees on the property.



The Byers and McDaniel class participated in an exciting Indigenous Education project with the students learning about the history of the island through the indigenous places and story which resulted in a map and presentation at the public library.

Saltspring Island Middle School

SIMS has been most proud of developing and maintaining a unique identity within the middle school model. This focus relates to the district values around “collaboration”, and strategic Goal 1-Objective 1.1 (supporting students’ physical, social, emotional + mental health, safety and well-being). The goal has been to create a culture of belonging and connection with this diverse group of learners, to be a place to ‘be’ and not just a transition school or a place to move through. They have achieved this by weekly school assemblies, offering a range of options for discovery through exploratories. (Music, circus, 3D models, dance, cooking etc.)

Saturna Elementary School/SEEC

This year started off with the huge success of our new School Playground! The excitement of this new equipment has not wavered throughout the year. Elementary students squeal in delight as they rush out through the classroom door for recess, lunch and body breaks throughout the day. This energy release and sometimes energy pick-up has increased learning opportunities and created happier, healthier children! Another success for our elementary students is the direction our VP and teacher are taking on a clearer academic focus. Putting early literacy and numeracy as top priorities for these young learners will lead to a more full and positive educational experience going forward.

SEEC students share some of their most successful experiences this year as being the bond they have created, exploring and hiking on Saturna, putting on the Christmas play, and some wonderful off-island field trips. The students are looking forward to their end of year campout on Tumbo Island next week.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Fraser Byers expressed concern that the English Literature may not be offered at GISS next year and asked what guidance the Board gives to the course selection process.

Chair Pingle explained that English Lit 12 was made available in the course selection process. Based on the number of requests received at that time, English Literature has not been scheduled into the timetable for next year. There is a finite number of courses that can be offered in a given year. English Lit may be offered the next year.

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Regular Board Meeting – September 11, 2019 at the School Board Office
- (b) Committee Day – September 25, 2019 at the School Board Office

15. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

CARRIED 100/19



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Date: September 11, 2019

Rob Pingle
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Jesse Guy
Secretary Treasurer