



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION**  
**Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)**  
**ZOOM Virtual Meeting**  
**2020 05 13**

<b>Present:</b>	Rob Pingle	Chairperson
	Shelley Lawson	Vice Chairperson
	Tisha Boulter	Trustee
	Janelle Lawson	Trustee
	Greg Lucas	Trustee
	Chaya Katrensky	Trustee
	Stefanie Denz	Trustee
	Scott Benwell	Superintendent of Schools
	D'Arcy Deacon	Director of Instruction, Human Resources
	Doug Livingston	Director of Instruction, Learning Services
	Jesse Guy	Secretary Treasurer
	Lori Deacon	Executive Assistant
	Deborah Nostdal	GITA President
	Larry Melious	CUPE President
	Shelly Johnson	GIPVPA President
	Lyall Ruehlen	Principal, GISS
	Brenda Lepine	Principal, Galiano
	Adria Kray	DPAC Representative
	Shelly Johnson	GIPVPA Representative
	Elizabeth Nolan	Driftwood Representative
	Robin Jenkinson	Gardens Program Coordinator

**Regrets:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 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.

**1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2020 05 13 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED 30/20

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2020 04 08 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 31/20

**3. IN-CAMERA SUMMARY**

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt the Regular In-Camera Summary of 2020 04 08 as presented.

CARRIED 32/20

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt the Special In-Camera Summary of 2020 04 20 as presented.

CARRIED 33/20



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4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

6. **DELEGATIONS**

(a) **Garden Programs – Robin Jenkinson**

Robin Jenkinson presented on district garden programs and what is happening at schools. Gardens are helping support food programs and food banks on some of the islands. Beds and greenhouses are thriving. Planting, weeding, and watering is being done by staff, families and community volunteers. Ms. Jenkinson explained that grow kits have been distributed to over 40 families on Salt Spring. Produce from some of the gardens will be shared with families in the fall.

Ms. Jenkinson expressed her gratitude that garden programs continue to be supported at each school. In this new reality, outdoor learning and garden programs provide healthy and safe learning opportunities for students. She stressed the importance of investing in garden programs as students and families learn to cope with the issues of climate change and food security.

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

(a) **Board Bylaw # 2 – Procedural Bylaw**

Bylaw #2 - Procedural Bylaw was amended to align with language in the *School Act*. The amended bylaw received first reading at the April Board meeting and was circulated for feedback. No feedback was received.

Moved and seconded that amended Bylaw #2 Procedural Bylaw receive second reading.

CARRIED 34/20

Moved and seconded that amended Bylaw #2 Procedural Bylaw receive third reading and adoption.

CARRIED 35/20

(b) **Draft 2020/2021 Board and Committee Schedules**

A draft Board and Committee Meetings Schedule for 2020/2021 was shared for consideration. The schedule will be circulated for feedback and brought to the June meeting for approval.

(c) **Configuration Review**

The final report from the Configuration Feedback Review Committee was shared. This report was brought to the Board in lieu of the Education Committee as committee meetings have been suspended until further notice. The objective of the Feedback Review Committee was to maintain integrity of the data, eliminate bias and be transparent in analysis and reporting.

Moved and seconded that the Board directs staff to provide recommendations, at the June Board meeting, of possible financial modelling scenarios for investigation over the summer.

CARRIED 36/20

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

(a) **COVID-19 Response**

Scott Benwell shared the Ministry of Education's five-stage strategy for the eventual return to full in-class instruction. Districts are currently operating in Stage 4 with in-class learning for children of essential service workers and vulnerable students, and remote learning for most students. In June, Stage 3 will see a



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part-time return for students. This return will be voluntary for families and the option for remote learning will continue to be available. Further guidance and measures for health and safety protocols are expected from the Province later this week.

Jesse Guy explained that health and safety protocols continue to be updated as our understanding of COVID-19 grows. The District is preparing for a graduated return of staff who may be currently working from home in anticipation of students back in classrooms part-time. She explained the various measures being taken to ensure the safety of staff and students.

A survey will be circulated to families to determine preference and probable attendance in schools to help the district best prepare for the return to part-time in-school instruction.

*i. International Program*

Lyall Ruehlen reported that, prior to spring break, the district had 59 international students registered at GISS. Currently, there are 38 students registered: 6 students have withdrawn from the program, and 15 have returned home but remain engaged in the learning opportunities provided remotely. GISS is expecting 39 international student registrations for September. Typically, the District would anticipate upwards of 65 students. Concerns regarding travel restrictions, entry/re-entry into Canada, and the need for quarantine are key factors in reduced projections. Staff have been working closely with Qualicum School District to develop a concrete plan to manage these issues prior to school start-up.

*ii. GISS Graduation*

Lyall Ruehlen reported that graduation will be a different experience this year; however, students, staff, and parents have been working to ensure that Grad 2020 will be a success. Committees have been formed to ensure that all planned activities are safe and compliant with the recommendations of the Public Health Officer. Students have expressed their desire for have parents present, staff participate, and grad write-ups as part of the celebration. The event may take place outdoors with small groups at a time receiving their certificates. A videographer has been engaged to film the presentations and piece everything together as a keepsake.

Scott Benwell thanked all staff for their hard work and dedication during a difficult time, finding creative ways to be effective in efforts to serve students and families. SD64 continues to work with provincial Ministries and other school districts while finding our own unique place in this COVID era.

**(b) Staffing**

D'Arcy Deacon thanked the district office team and Union partners for their efforts and support during the staffing process. The District has had to make staffing adjustments for next year to align with a reduction is projected enrolment. Eleven teachers were impacted by an approximate 6.0 FTE identified surplus to need. Those teachers have elected recall and will be offered upcoming vacancies based on seniority and qualifications.

EA selection day is scheduled to take place on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**(c) Teachers Contract**

Dr. Benwell recognized that provincial parties have ratified collective language for the teachers' contract. He stated his appreciation for local relationships and respectful bargaining at the local level. Deborah Nostdal reported that GITA is waiting to hear from the BCTF regarding a suitable platform to support the local ratification of the Collective Agreement.



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2020 05 13

9. **SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT**

(a) **Financial Report**

Jesse Guy shared the monthly expenditure report for April. If spending remains on track for the remainder of the year, the District is in a position to see a modest surplus of approximately 3%.

(b) **2020/2021 Annual Budget Update**

Ms. Guy shared an overview of expenses and revenues for 2020/2021 that will be used to draft the budget for Board approval June meeting. Ms. Guy explained that anticipated expenditures for next year will be similar to the current year. Overall revenues, with the inclusion of funding protection, are expected to remain similar to the current year. Ms. Guy is anticipating an approximate 1 million surplus for both this year and next. This surplus will allow for the investment in resources to support learning across the district.

(c) **MCFD Childcare Spaces Grant Application, Saturna**

Ms. Guy reported that the application for childcare spaces on Saturna was submitted to the MCFD. The District will be informed in August if the application is successful.

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No Committee Reports

11. **TRUSTEES' SCHOOL REPORTS**

No Trustee School Reports

12. **OTHER BUSINESS**

13. **QUESTION PERIOD**

14. **NEXT MEETING DATES**

(a) Committee Day – TBD

(b) Regular Board Meeting – June 10, 2020, location TBD

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

CARRIED 37/20

Date: June 10, 2020

Rob Pingle  
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Jesse Guy  
Secretary Treasurer