



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
ZOOM Virtual Meeting
2020 10 14

Present:

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
Boe Beardsmore	Director of Instruction, Learning Services
Jesse Guy	Secretary Treasurer
Lori Deacon	Executive Assistant
Ian Mitchell	GITA President
Angela Thomas	CUPE President
Shelly Johnson	GIPVPA Representative
Deblekha Guin	DPAC Representative
Caitlin Hertzman	DPAC Representative
Sarah Rae	DPAC Representative
Elizabeth Nolan	Driftwood Representative

Regrets:

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Chair Pingle. Trustee Katrensky acknowledged the privilege of living, playing and doing meaningful work on these traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples. Positive change is possible when we pause and reflect on reconciliation – huy ch q'u.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Additions:
Letter to BC Ferries 7(c)
HR Committee Report 10(b)

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2020 10 14 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED 72/20

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2020 09 16 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 73 /20

3. IN-CAMERA SUMMARY

The Regular In-Camera Summary of 2020 09 16 and the Special In-Camera Summary of 2020 09 14 were received as presented.

4. BUSINESS ARISING



5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

6. **DELEGATIONS**

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

(a) **Configuration Review**

Feedback and Q&As were included in the Board package for review. Any new questions from feedback received will be addressed at the next Committee of the Whole. An FAQ has been posted on the district website to provide more information.

Trustees discussed the information that has been shared for consideration, options and opportunities for configuration, timelines for decision making, and the impact of student water transportation.

Jesse Guy will prepare a five-year water taxi ridership and associated revenue projection for presentation at the October Committee of the Whole. Items identified for further discuss at Committee of the Whole include: student water transportation, access to specialty programs, addressing unique needs of students, Pender Program possibilities, and historical graduation completion rates for Mayne, Galiano, Pender, and Saturna students. Scott Benwell suggested Pender Islands School Principal Adrian Pendergast be invited to participate in the discussion on the 28th.

Rob Pingle opened the floor to partner representatives. DPAC representative Caitlin Hertzman requested that trustees turn the ZOOM chat feature on for their meetings. She presented questions and comments on behalf of parents including a request for the Board to pause decision-making to be able to consult on the new information provided after the consultation period ended. GIPVPA representative Shelly Johnson requested the Board not delay the decision making process.

(b) **2021/2022 Draft Calendar and Consultation Schedule**

A draft 2021/2022 calendar and consultation schedule were shared. The Board presented the following Notice of Motion:

The Board of Education adopt a Local School Calendar for the 2021/2022 school year that reduces the number of instructional days by approximately 25 to 30 resulting in a four-day school week. The instructional time from these days will be added to the remaining days of instruction.

The resulting saving will allow the district to preserve programs and options for our students. The motion will be tabled at the regular Public Board meeting on February 10, 2021.

The notice of motion will be added to the website along with an online comment form to allow people to share their input regarding the 4-day instructional week.

(c) **Letter to BC Ferries**

Trustees discussed how to engage BC Ferries to support student water transportation.

Moved and seconded that the Board write a letter to BC Ferries requesting a meeting to discuss ferry route options between schools in the Gulf Islands School District.



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Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
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Moved and seconded that the motion be amended to read "...to BC Ferries CEO and BC Government Ministers for Transportation and Education requesting a meeting to discuss schedules of current ferry routes that might align with the schools and/or interisland foot travel options ...".

CARRIED 74/20

Moved and seconded that the Board write a letter to BC Ferries CEO and BC Government Ministers for Transportation and Education requesting a meeting to discuss schedules of current ferry routes that might align with the schools and/or interisland foot travel options between schools in the Gulf Islands School District.

CARRIED 75/20

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

(a) COVID-19 Response

Superintendent Benwell reported that all schools are operational, and work continues in partnership with employee groups to ensure safe learning environments for staff, students, and families. The district has met or surpassed all health and safety recommendations laid out by BCCDC, WorkSafe BC, and the Ministries of Education and Health. There are currently 58 students enrolled in Flex Return. Some of the students enrolled in Flex Return have transitioned back to in-class instruction.

District staff and local CUPE executive are working closely with bus drivers to restore all bus routes.

(b) Enrolment Update

Jesse Guy reported that the district had projected the enrolment of 1440 students for this year. Actual enrolment as of September 30th was 1420. She stated that COVID-19 had little impact on enrolment and, with considerations for Flexible return, the district reported 1430.8125 FTE students on its September 1701 funding report to the Ministry.

(c) FSA Update

Scott Benwell stated that, due to COVID-19 and the current pressures on schools, the Ministry recently announced administration of the FSA has been postponed until the new year.

9. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

(a) Financial Report

Jesse Guy shared the monthly expenditure report for September. Expenditures to date are on track within budget.

(b) Flu Clinic

Ms. Guy reported that there will be a flu clinic held at GISS on of November 6, 7, and 8 from 8:30 to 4:30.

(c) BC Election Polling Stations

Ms. Guy reported that BC Elections has requested the use of district facilities as polling stations and for training purposes. This is a common request that benefits our local communities.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Committee of the Whole Report

The next committee of the whole meeting will be held October 28 and will focus on further discussion of configuration ideas.

(b) HR Committee Report



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
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Shelley Lawson reported that today was the first HR Committee meeting since February. The committee welcomed Ian Mitchel (GITA) and Angela Thomas (CUPE) as the new union presidents. Trustees also discussed professional development opportunities.

Moved and seconded that the Board approve up to \$200 per trustee to select their own professional development opportunities.

Moved and seconded that the motion be amended to include “until June 2021”.

CARRIED 76/20

Moved and seconded that the Board approve up to \$200 per trustee to select their own professional development opportunities until June 2021.

CARRIED 77/20

11. TRUSTEES’ SCHOOL REPORTS

Trustee School Reports will be discussed at the October 28 Education Committee Meeting.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Chair Pingle accepted questions from the public.

Moved and seconded that the meeting be extended beyond 4:04 p.m. for an additional 15 minutes.

CARRIED 78/20

Chair Pingle continued to accept questions and comments from the public. He acknowledged that this is most likely the last meeting that Doug Livingston will attend in his capacity as Director of Instruction and wished him all the best in his retirement.

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Committee Day – October 28, 2020
- (b) Regular Board Meeting – November 18, 2020

15. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

CARRIED 79/20

Date: _____

Chairperson



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Certified Correct:

Secretary Treasurer