



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
ZOOM Virtual Meeting
2021 05 12

Present:

Tisha Boulter
Chaya Katrensky
Stefanie Denz
Janelle Lawson
Shelley Lawson
Greg Lucas
Rob Pingle

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee

Scott Benwell
Jesse Guy
D'Arcy Deacon
Boe Beardsmore
Lori Deacon

Superintendent of Schools
Secretary Treasurer
Director of Instruction, Human Resources
Director of Instruction, Learning Services
Executive Assistant

Ian Mitchell
Janice Shields
Angela Thomas
Adrian Pendergast
Caitlin Hertzman
Lyll Ruehlen
Ryan Massey
Jude Shugar
Elizabeth Nolan

GITA President
CUPE Vice President
CUPE President
GIPVPA Representative
DPAC Representative
GISS Principal
GISS Vice Principal
GISS Vice Principal
Driftwood Representative

Regrets:

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Boulter. Trustee Janelle Lawson acknowledged, with honour and respect, that this meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples - Huy tseep q'u.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2021 05 12 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED 46/21

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2021 04 14 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 47/21

3. IN-CAMERA SUMMARY

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt the Regular In-Camera Summary of 2021 04 14 as presented.

CARRIED 48/21

4. BUSINESS ARISING



5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence

6. **DELEGATIONS**

(a) **GISS Timetable Presentation - Lyall Ruehlen**

GISS Principal Lyall Ruehlen shared a presentation comparing the semester and quarter system timetable. The implementation of a quarter system has had a positive impact on attendance, allowed for deeper learning, and supported targeted interventions to improve grade to grade transitions. Challenges include maintaining engagement during long classes and a compounding negative impact where attendance is poor. The school will be able to pivot back to a semester timetable should COVID-19 safety protocols loosen.

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

(a) **3-Year Calendar**

Discussion regarding the potential of adopting a three-consecutive year calendar for 2022/23 – 2024/25.

Moved and seconded that the Board directs staff to draft a three-year calendar for the Board's consideration at its October 2021 public meeting.

CARRIED 49/21

A Notice of Motion to adopt a three-year calendar will be presented at the October public meeting for the Board's consideration at its February 2022 public meeting.

(b) **Draft 2021/2022 Board Meetings Schedule**

The draft 2021/22 Board Meetings Schedule presented follows the same format as the current schedule for the 2020/21 school year.

Moved and seconded that the Board adopts the 2021/2022 Board Meetings Schedule as presented.

CARRIED 50/21

(c) **Anti-Racism Advocacy Working Group**

Boe Beardsmore presented on the work accomplished by the group this year and the ongoing commitment to eliminate systemic racism and create positive and equitable change for students. With the support and actions undertaken across the district by staff, students, and partner groups, work continues to focus on re-evaluating systems and practices of racism that exist in our learning and working environments. SD64 is invested in dismantling racism within our sphere of influence and advocating for change beyond.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education agrees to continue the Anti-Racism Advocacy Working Group for the 2021/2022 school year.

CARRIED 51/21

The Anti-Racism Advocacy Working Group will create a renewed Terms of Reference for the Board's consideration.

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

(a) **Staffing**

D'Arcy Deacon reported on the current phase of teacher staffing process to determine surplus to need, entitlement, layoff/recall, and vacancies for the next school year based on projected enrolment.



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(b) Frontline Worker Vaccine Rollout

Boe Beardsmore reported on the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines provided to SD64 employees as part of the provincial frontline immunization program.

(c) COVID-19 Update

Boe Beardsmore updated trustees on the recent visit from the Vancouver Island district COVID-19 Rapid Response Team. The team reviewed the district and school plans and visited schools to see plans in action. The district received positive recognition for its work to plan, implement, and support health and safety protocols.

A brief recess was called at 7:45 pm. The meeting resumed at 7:51 pm.

9. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

(a) Monthly Financial Report

Jesse Guy shared the monthly expenditure report for February and March. Spending is consistent and on budget within an approximate 4% surplus over amended budget.

(b) Request for Support

Jesse Guy opened discussion regarding the motion tabled at the April public meeting: (moved and seconded) that the board of education directs the Secretary Treasurer, on behalf of the board, to evaluate and provide letters of support, when deemed appropriate, for district or external groups who request board support for grants that support the educational and operation outcomes of the district.

Moved by consensus to lift the motion from the table.

Moved and seconded to motion be amended to include: Letters of support, written on behalf of the Board, will be brought as correspondence to the following Board meeting.

CARRIED 52/21

Moved and seconded that the board of education directs the Secretary Treasurer, on behalf of the board, to evaluate and provide letters of support, when deemed appropriate, for district or external groups who request board support for grants that support the educational and operation outcomes of the district. Letters of support, written on behalf of the Board, will be brought as correspondence to the following Board meeting.

CARRIED 53/21

(c) MCFD Childcare Space Grant Application, Saturna

Jesse Guy reported that MCFD has asked the district to wait until September to resubmit its Saturna childcare grant application. The delay provide time for MCFD to streamline the process in efforts to increase interactions with school districts.

(d) Electric Bus Procurement

Jesse Guy reported on Ministry funding for buses to school districts. Electric buses accounted for 18 of the 100 buses granted to districts last year. SD64 has applied for a new bus route in its capital plan submission for 2021/22.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Climate Action Committee

Trustee Lucas reported that the Climate Action Working Group will meet next on June 16th. The group is



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looking at ways to support student environmental groups, engage guest speakers, raise carbon awareness, and improve school practices to recycle, reduce and reuse.

(b) HR Committee

The HR Committee summary 2021 04 14 was received.

(c) Committee of the Whole Report

The Committee of the Whole summary for 2021 04 28 was received.

(d) Education Committee Report

The Education Committee summary for 2021 04 28 was received.

Correction to 3(a)

(e) Finance, Audit, and Facilities Committee Report

The Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee summary 2021 04 28 was received.

(f) Policy Committee Report

The Policy Committee summary 2021 02 24 was received.

i. Draft Policy/Procedure 6950 Child Care

District are required, under the School Act, to develop policy around the provision of Child Care. Draft policy and procedure were created from a template provided by BCSTA and circulated for feedback. No feedback was received.

Moved and seconded that the Board adopt Policy and Procedure 6950 Child Care.

CARRIED 54/21

ii. Procedure 4250-3 (form) School Log of Actions Student Medical Care Plan

A record of form 4250-3 School Log of Actions could not be found so a new form was drafted and circulated for feedback.

Moved and seconded that the Board adopt Procedure form 4250-3 School Log of Actions and Administration of Mediations to a Student.

CARRIED 55/21

iii. Draft Policy/Procedure 6300 Retention and Destruction of Records

A Notice of Motion to adopt Policy and Procedure 6300 Retention and Destruction of Records was presented at the November 18, 2020 public meeting. Feedback was incorporated into amendments.

Moved and seconded that the Board adopt Policy and Procedure 6300 Retention and Destruction of Records.

CARRIED 56/21

iv. Procedure 105 Governance and Administration

The policy was amended to include duties of the vice-chair, adjust the timing of chair and vice-chair elections, and remove binary pronouns.

Moved and seconded that the Board approve amendments to Procedure 105 Governance and Administration as presented.



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CARRIED 57/21

v. *Policy and Procedure 212 Violence and Harassment-Free District*

Proposed amendments include strengthening of policy language around expectations for the public, reference to SOGI, removal of reference to the Program Delivery Task Force, and replacing could/would with shall/will. A correction was made to replace 'comprised of' with 'comprising'.

Notice of Motion: that the Board approve amendments to Policy and Procedure 212 Violence and Harassment-Free District. The motion will be brought to the November Public Meeting of the Board.

The proposed amendments to policy and procedure 212 will be circulated for feedback and brought to the October policy committee for consideration.

vi. *Policy and Procedure 210 Code of Conduct*

Recommendations were made to remove 'and their differences' from the policy, and to expand basis of discrimination in the procedure.

Notice of Motion: that the Board approve amendments to Policy and Procedure 210 Code of Conduct. The motion will be brought to the November Public Meeting of the Board.

The proposed amendments to policy and procedure 210 will be circulated for feedback and brought to the October policy committee for consideration.

vii. *Policy and Procedure 135 Policy Development and Implementation*

Recommendations were made to remove binary gender references and to add DPAC to the partner groups listed in the procedure.

Notice of Motion: that the Board approve amendments to Policy and Procedure 135 Policy Development and Implementation. The motion will be brought to the November Public Meeting of the Board.

The proposed amendments to policy and procedure 135 will be circulated for feedback and brought to the October policy committee for consideration.

11. TRUSTEES' SCHOOL REPORTS

Trustee School Reports were received. Trustee Denz shared her school reports for Saltspring Island Middle School and Fulford Elementary School.

Topic: What can the Board do to support your school? (Goal 2.4 Promote best practices in governance and leadership.)

Galiano Community School

Galiano Community School has been fortunate this year, with several district initiatives that have addressed on-going concerns. School staff hope that there are ways to continue these projects, as they have immediately impacted student outcomes. The EPIC grant allowed for targeted learning initiatives for students and gave staff additional time to reflect on and implement new teaching/learning strategies for students who would have fallen behind, and improved grade-to-grade transitions. There has also been an increase in student district assessments this year, allowing staff to address on-going concerns in all three classrooms. One area that remains a concern for staff is a lack of TTOC's and EA's available on short notice – support from the board and senior staff could



include some strategies for hiring and for dispatch solutions. Often getting a replacement for an ill staff member on the morning of a school day is impossible.

Gulf Islands Secondary School

Principal Ruehlen has appreciated when the Trustee rep to the school has knowledge and awareness about the school pedagogy and culture. When the trustee is more informed about events school activities there is shared language around messaging going out to parents and students which helps present consistent communication. GISS would be very interested in collaborating with the board on a communications plan. Some good ideas were talked about that could involve student voice. Generally speaking, investing in good communication and relationships between school Admin and the board results in a cohesive team approach that positively effects the delivery of education. It also models for the students how good leadership is achieved.

Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School

Continued conversations such as the monthly trustee/principal meetings help keep the board connected to the school. Professional development and Educational Leadership Team continue to build on a culture of learning. Policy set by the board with clear procedure gives staff the tools and knowledge to comfortably follow district policy. The Framework for Enhancing Student Learning and the continuing to seek student voice helps guide each school on their plan and direction.

Pender Islands Elementary Secondary School

Our conversations on how the Board can support Pender School continue to evolve around further involving the students and how we might grow our efforts to be more inclusive. Principal Pendergast and Vic-principal Landahl suggest turning to committee groups, where we can invite conversation, share and gain more perspective. Traditionally for example, student led groups of climate action have joined our board committees, where they have given voice to their opinions and priorities.

In the past as well we have fostered partnerships with local indigenous schools from the Saanich and Cowichan areas, which we look to explore and continue next school year.

Through this stage of growth and transition we also look to further involve and welcome our parent groups amongst Mayne, Galiano and Saturna and Saltspring. Our PAC group is growing to reflect the same and look forward to “in person” meetings when possible.

A big opportunity which I personally look forward to, is promotion through local media, highlighting student learning and community connection. Specifically, we will be looking to continue to support and grow, existing partnerships with local structures such as “Ptarmigan Arts” and “Three on the Tree”, lending exposure to the arts. With board support, we will also be looking to local volunteers and businesses, with specific skill sets, who may be able to help for example, in shop class, in the “industrial arts” categories and coaching in outdoor activities and sports athletics.

Further we have more recently renewed our conversations with local emergency support services to assist with school drills, safety prevention work and future mental health presentations / workshops.

Another idea brought forth looks to the climate and local eco species connection, wherein local indigenous plants species would be fostered and grown on the school grounds to promote lessons in habitat and ecology.

Phoenix Elementary School

Principal Sparanese spoke about more collaboration between the board and school that link the school growth plans and the strategic plan. How can the board utilize the data coming out of schools to better inform decisions at the board level such as configuration ideas and Strategic goals? Creating more opportunities to work together in



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shared goals that balance the best educational outcomes and financial stability. Principal's have a good pulse on the schools and their learners and gathering this feedback regularly through consultation and shared collaborative tables will result in better outcomes for students. How can the board engage more with the PVP's not just the reps during Board or committee meetings?

Saturna Elementary School/SEEC

Saturna's school administration team shares that they are very thankful for the support of the school board to Saturna school including SEEC over the past few years. The school has noted the provision of appropriate staffing levels and the willingness of our learning partners to make the trip over to Saturna. It is also noted that due to Covid-19 we have missed the opportunities to have a regular board meeting on island, finding new ways of sharing what is happening in our little school would be great. A continued focus on physical resources (learning resources, technology, etc.) would be great. Being remote, often ensuring our facilities are kept up to a high standard can be challenging. Keeping high quality learning environments as a high priority for the board will have an impact on how students view their learning in SD64.

Our administration also notes that specifically for our SEEC program, it would be great to see our board further showcase this as our other (in district) opportunity for grad programming in SD64. Connecting with the work being done at the SEEC program and showcasing the opportunities the program offers will be important to its growth moving forward.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Chair Boulter took questions from the public and partner groups.

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Regular Board Meeting: June 9, 2021
- (b) Committee Day: October 27, 2021

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

CARRIED 58/21

Date: _____

Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Secretary Treasurer