



**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (GULF ISLANDS)
HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2012 AT SALTSRING ISLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Present:	Bonnie MacGillivray	Vice Chairperson
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Katharine Byers	Trustee
	Pete Williams	Trustee
	Susanne Middleditch	Trustee
	Kathy Page	Trustee
	Jeff Hopkins	Superintendent of Schools
	Rod Scotvold	Secretary Treasurer
	Linda Underwood	Director of Human Resources
	Lisa Halstead	Director of Instruction
	Dawne Fennell	Executive Assistant
	Jack Braak	GITA President
	Keiko Taylor	GIPVPA Representative
Lauren Utter	GISS Student Representative	
Elizabeth Nolan	Driftwood Representative	
Regrets:	May McKenzie	Chairperson
	Shelley Lawson	DPAC 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 2012 04 11, be adopted with the following addition:

- 3 (a) Process Motion

CARRIED 29/12

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2012 03 07, be approved as presented.

CARRIED 30/12

3. BUSINESS ARISING

(a) Process Motion

Process motion presented by Trustee Kathy Page.

It was moved and seconded that:

After eight years, whilst some of the community are satisfied with the compressed week, others are not, the Board commits to:

1. A thorough independent review of the various impacts of the compressed calendar in the various communities in the district, to be budgeted for in the 2012/2013 year and completed by January 2013;
2. To search for calendar alternatives that might meet the needs of all our students; and
3. Arising out of numbers 1 and 2, a new consultation process for the 2013/2014 calendar.

Rationale: Thorough review is part of a healthy process. The Board “recognizes its obligation to the school students of the district, to their parents, to taxpayers of the district, and to the community as a whole” and is committed to meet the educational needs of all students in the district, and to continuously evaluate and assess itself (Policy 100).

Following discussion it was moved and seconded to amend the motion by removing the words “January 2013” in number 1 and adding “within the 2012/2013 school year”.

CARRIED 31/12

It was moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopts the main motion as amended, with the final wording being as follows:

After eight years, whilst some of the community are satisfied with the compressed week, others are not, the Board commits to:

1. A thorough independent review of the various impacts of the compressed calendar in the various communities in the district, to be budgeted for in the 2012/2013 year and completed within the 2012/2013 school year;
2. To search for calendar alternatives that might meet the needs of all our students; and
3. Arising out of numbers 1 and 2, a new consultation process for the 2013/2014 calendar.

Rationale: Thorough review is part of a healthy process. The Board “recognizes its obligation to the school students of the district, to their parents, to taxpayers of the district, and to the community as a whole” and is committed to meet the educational needs of all students in the district, and to continuously evaluate and assess itself (Policy 100).

CARRIED 32/12

(b) Local School Calendar for 2012/2013

The trustees have reviewed all feedback received since September 2011 regarding the four-day instructional week calendar. Chair McKenzie personally answered most of the inquiries received via the website input form.

Trustee Pete Williams read the Notice of Motion that was presented at the September 14, 2011 Board meeting:

It was moved that the Board of Education adopts a Local School Calendar for the 2012/2013 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 savings will allow the district to preserve programs and options for our students. The motion will be tabled at the regular Public Board meeting on April 11, 2012.

Vice Chair MacGillivray opened the floor for discussion.

Discussion included:

- ▶ Financial projections comparing the 4-day and 5-day week would not support moving back to the 5-day week. Remain on the 4-day week and continue to add programs and staffing to enrich what the district has been building on over the years. Maintain specialized courses and programs.
- ▶ The acknowledgment some families are struggling with the 4-day week.
- ▶ What’s best for all students?
- ▶ Importance of having meaningful conversation and engagement – we can improve.
- ▶ Agreement that the process is ready for review – willing to take a fresh look at the consultation process.
- ▶ Interest in doing an independent review (qualitative and quantitative) of the 4-day week. Build a body of evidence of benefits of 4-day week.
- ▶ Calendar process and legislation – there may not be a standard calendar much longer as a number of districts implement their own calendar variations which differ from the standard calendar.
- ▶ Concerns for students and staff if there is a return to the 5-day week now.
- ▶ How does the 4-day week fit with personalized learning initiatives?

- ▶ Make a coordinated effort to engage with relevant community groups on the islands to enhance recreational or related community opportunities on Fridays.
- ▶ Love the 4-day week (Grade 11 student).

It was moved and seconded the Board of Education adopts a change to the local school calendar resulting in 158 days of instruction for the 2012/2013 school year.

***Rationale:** The implementation of an altered school calendar enables the Board to retain educational programs and options for our students.*

CARRIED 33/12

The final version of the calendar will be sent out to all partner groups, schools and uploaded on the district website.

4. DELEGATIONS

(a) Kathryn Akehurst and Janet Hoag – Nature Based Kindergarten

This presentation is tabled for another meeting.

5. TRUSTEE'S SCHOOL REPORTS

- ***Fernwood Elementary School***
Pizza day; basketball; Spirits wacky hair day; 100th day of school celebrated in song; conservancy trip to Ford Lake; UVic teacher starts practicum this week; PAC turning flower bed into sand box; safety preparedness; display in foyer done by Gr. 5 students
- ***Fulford Community Elementary School***
Outdoor ed. room almost finished; students creating hanging baskets for purchase, money goes towards keeping garden going; country dance April 14, open to everyone, fundraiser for PAC; April 25 – spring showcase, students will present visual arts; swimming lessons happening
- ***Galiano Community School***
April 13 – “potions, explosions and art” open house, guided tours by students, show time and rocket launch; garden is ever growing, students and community very involved, summer and winter gardens and greenhouse; ride your bike day; tending the 2 bee hives is really popular with students
- ***Gulf Islands Secondary School***
Lauren Utter, GISS Student Representative – Richard Clarke, an Olympian in sailing who lives on the island is visiting tomorrow to talk to students about his journey to London in 2012; leadership hosting the 30-hour famine; Improv team placed 10th in Nationals; Gr. 11 F.I. students are visiting Quebec and Ottawa; soccer intramurals; Gr. 12 student Eva Olynyk won the TD scholarship valued up to \$70,000 over four years of post secondary study
Trustee Page – brief info session with a Canadian National Road Cycling and Mountain Biking Coach; social networking is topic for discussion for PAC; parents are organizing for after grad
- ***Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School***
No report. Chair McKenzie absent.
- ***Pender Islands Elem./Sec. School***
Fernwood coming to play basketball April 26; hot lunch by PAC, Gr. 4./5 doing prep work for it; playground has been re-surfaced; hockey is now outside in the outdoor sports court
- ***Phoenix Elementary School***
Earth week; playground almost finished; school being reconfigured; good enrollment; new secretary; swimming; dance workshops; artist in classroom
- ***Saltspring Island Middle School***
MY SEEC meeting tonight; FSA's all marked; Quebec visitors on April 22 for a week, trips planned on and off island; facelift happening for computer lab

➤ ***Salt Spring Elementary School***

On April 17 Gary Allan will talk about the importance of wolves in the ecosystem and presents his wolf-dog Tundra who is 85% wolf – fundraiser for PAC; swimming; heron rookery behind swimming pool on back road, students will be monitoring it; Gr. 2/3 classes going to Ford Lake with conservancy; parents building garden

➤ ***Saturna Elementary School/SEEC***

Elementary: Fundraising for ski trip; Cameron has turned this into a learning session; camping trip end of May

SEEC

12 students, Gr. 7 to 12 from many different places; working on independent projects right now; lamb BBQ preparations; Facebook page; students attended science symposium at UVic

➤ ***Windsor House School***

Topic is play and multiple learning in play – kid’s café; monopoly; marshmallow challenge

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence.

7. **CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT**

No report.

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

(a) **Planning Day/Retirement Luncheon – May 4, 2012**

May 4 is the date for the annual District Planning Day and Retirement Recognition Luncheon. School staff members will be planning for the 2012/2013 school year. The format will be an open space forum. Lunch will be in the GISS cafeteria for all staff members and those members who are retiring or have retired this year will be recognized for their years of service to the district.

(b) **Bill 22 and Regulations**

Mr. Hopkins spoke to Bill 22 on the following items:

- ▶ Bill 22 eliminates class size averages, and maintains class maximums – 22 for K, 24 for grades 1-3, and 30-student limit in grades 4 – 12 (with certain conditions and some exceptions):
 - Exceptions could include classes like choir, band or drama where a larger number could be beneficial and would not make the teachers job more difficult or more complex; there will be a list of what is exempted from the 30 cap.
 - Where the 30 cap is exceeded in non-exceptional classes, teachers will be compensated as per a formula. Compensation could be in the form of extra prep time, pro-D funds, salary, or a combination of things.
- ▶ Bill 22 eliminates the “formulaic and cumbersome consultation process that only applied when there were 3 or more students with special needs assigned to a class”. The intent is to “promote regular communication between teachers and principals about overall class organization and the allocation of resources to provide an effective learning environment for all students”. Consultation has always been a regular part of the district’s process and is paramount during the staffing process in April and May.
- ▶ Seniority remains a key factor but qualifications also considered, i.e. Math teachers teaching Math, Science teachers teaching Science. Bill 22 does not change current seniority provisions, and it does not strip teachers of seniority rights.

- ▶ The Bill makes no changes to any terms of the current collective agreement – it simply extends it through a cooling off period until August 31, 2012 or until a collective agreement is concluded, whichever is first and it ends the strike.
- ▶ It provides for the Minister of Education to appoint a mediator to assist in settling the terms and conditions of the collective agreement. Dr. Charles Jago has been appointed and will report to the Minister by June 30, 2012.
- ▶ Bill 22 also implements a new Learning Improvement Fund of \$195 million over three years to help school districts and teachers address complex classroom composition issues. This fall, \$60 million from the Learning Improvement Fund will be allocated to classrooms with the greatest need. Another \$60 million is allocated in 2013-14, and \$75 million in 2014-15 and each year thereafter. These resources can be used to: support professional development and training, hire additional teachers and education assistants, and provide additional teaching time.
- ▶ Bill 22 restores class size and composition as matters that can be bargained between the BCTF and BCPSEA in the next round of negotiations, expected to begin in Spring 2013.

Mr. Hopkins encouraged everyone to read Bill 22. It can be found at:
http://www.leg.bc.ca/39th4th/1st_read/gov22-1.htm.

(c) Staffing Update

School based configuration worksheets, formula driven numbers based on enrollment projections, was sent out to each school yesterday. The next step is confirmation of the configurations, then the transition from the configuration to people. Middle years programming for the Outer Islands has been part of the staffing discussion. Planning meetings for EA selection day and bus driver route selection are upcoming.

9. CORPORATE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Monthly Financial Report

The monthly expenditure report as at March 31, 2012, indicates that with 0.7500 of the year completed, 0.7116 of the budget has been expended. We are 3.84% below budget at this time.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. OTHER BUSINESS

12. QUESTION PERIOD

13. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Committee Day – April 25, 2012 at the School Board Office
- (b) Regular Board Meeting – May 09, 2012 at Mayne Island School

14. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

CARRIED 34/12

Date: May 9, 2012

May McKenzie
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold
Secretary Treasurer