



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
Galiano Community School
2023 06 14

Present:	Tisha Boulter	Chairperson
	Chaya Katrensky	Vice Chair
	Deborah Luporini	Trustee
	Jeannine Georgeson	Trustee
	Nancy Macdonald	Trustee
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Greg Lucas	Trustee
	Scott Benwell	Superintendent of Schools/Acting Secretary
		Treasurer
		Deputy Superintendent
	District Finances (via Zoom)	
	GIPVPA Representative	
	DPAC Representative	
	GITA President	
	CUPE President	
Regrets:	Boe Beardsmore	Associate Superintendent
	Lori Deacon	Acting Director of Corporate Services
	Clare Nuyens	Executive Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Chair Boulter. Trustee Georgeson acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territories of the of the Coast Salish speaking peoples - huy tseep q'u.

Note: These minutes reflect the order of business as presented in the agenda. Items may have been addressed out of order to accommodate timing and access.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Additions:

7(c) Todd Wolf Soccer Tournament request to serve alcohol

7(d) Mayne Lions request to serve alcohol

5(b) Correspondence received

10(b) vi Diversity Report

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2023 06 14 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED 47/23

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2023 05 10 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 48/23

3. IN-CAMERA SUMMARY

The summary of the In-Camera Meeting of 2023 05 10 be adopted by consensus.

4. BUSINESS ARISING



5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) **Board Email to Anti-Racism Working Group / Response from BIPOC Community Collective**
The Chair acknowledged receipt of the correspondence and that a response would be provided to the individuals who shared their comments.

6. **DELEGATIONS**

- (a) **Galiano Community School Presentation**
School Principal Brenda Lepine spoke to the growth that had occurred within the school community in the past year. She highlighted the Hul'qumi'num language program which was curtailed by COVID. The program was revived this year and that work will continue in the new year. The grade 2/3 class presented a poem they had learned in Hul'qumi'num.
- (b) **BIPOC Community Collective**
Deblekah Guin and Hughson Welch spoke to the decision to end the Anti-Racism Working Group.

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- (a) **2023/2024 Board Meetings Schedule**
The updated schedule was presented by the Chair.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopts the Board Meetings Schedule for 2023/2024 as presented.

CARRIED 49/23

- (b) **Equity and Inclusion Programs and Initiatives**
The Chair presented the motion and spoke to the rationale for it. It was felt that it would provide a clear understanding of the work within the district to address the issue and provide an opportunity to identify next steps.

Moved and seconded that the Board direct staff to bring to the October Board Meeting, a summary to date of programs and initiatives relating to Diversity, Anti-Racism, Equity, Inclusion, and Truth and Reconciliation.

CARRIED 50/23

- (c) **Todd Wolf Memorial Soccer Tournament Request to Serve Alcohol**
The Chair presented the late agenda item. Galiano Activity Centre Society has requested to serve alcohol on school grounds during its annual Todd Wolf Memorial Soccer Tournament on August 26, 2023.

Moved and seconded that in accordance with policy the Board approves the request.

CARRIED 51/23

- (d) **Mayne Lions Request to Serve Alcohol**
The Chair presented the late agenda item. The Mayne Lions have requested to serve alcohol on school premises during its dinner and dance celebration on November 18, 2023.

Moved and seconded that in accordance with policy the Board approves the request.

CARRIED 52/23



8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

(a) **French Program Options**

Superintendent Benwell spoke to the work staff have undertaken to research the provision of French education on Pender Island. It was noted that the Ministry has indicated that French Immersion is the only appropriate option and that there is funding available to help defray the cost of staffing during the implementation of Late French Immersion education at Pender Islands School.

(b) **Seamless Day Pilot Update**

Superintendent Benwell spoke to the work staff have undertaken to provide a review of the seamless day pilot project.

(c) **School Fees 2023/24**

Superintendent Benwell spoke to the School Fees for the 2023/24 school year. The removal of the planner/locker/activities at GISS was noted and it was requested that making a similar change at the Elementary and Southern Gulf Island Schools would be helpful. There was discussion regarding the fees charged by the GISPA Academy. It was noted that the fee is for field trips and has been decreased over time.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the school fees schedule for the 2023/2024 school year as presented.

CARRIED 57/23

(d) **Deputy Superintendent's Report**

i. **Staffing**

Deputy Superintendent Deacon provided an update to the staffing process for the upcoming school year. He noted the need for an increase in the number of Education Assistants and the challenges that are being experienced in filling them all. An Anti-Racism Student Advocate position is being developed for the 23/24 school year. There will be continued work to stabilize this position for the future.

ii. **DRIPA Action Plan**

Deputy Superintendent Deacon highlighted the DRIPA Action Plan. It was noted that the plan is rooted in legislation and will create action items for the Ministry of Education and Child Care and therefore the District.

9. **SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT**

(a) **Monthly Financial Report**

The monthly operating expense report summary for April indicates that expenses are currently 0.5% under budget. Operation costs are primarily over budget due to the lack of an in district heavy duty mechanic. The challenge to fill the position is due to the rate of pay for the position being maintained by the province.

(b) **Draft 2023/2024 Annual Budget Bylaw – 3 readings**

John Martin presented the draft 2023/2024 Annual Budget.

Moved and seconded that there is unanimous approval to give the 2023/2024 Annual Budget Bylaw three readings at this time.



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CARRIED 53/23

Chair Boulter read the Annual Budget Bylaw for 2023/2024. The total budget bylaw amount of \$30,671,242 for the 2023/2024 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the *School Act*.

Moved and seconded that the 2023/2024 Annual Budget Bylaw be read a first time and passed.

CARRIED 54/23

Moved and seconded that the 2023/2024 Annual Budget Bylaw be read a second time and passed.

CARRIED 55/23

Moved and seconded that the 2023/2024 Annual Budget Bylaw be read a third time, passed, and adopted.

CARRIED 56/23

(c) Draft 2024/2025 Five Year Capital Plan – Major Submission.

The 5-year capital plan – major submission was presented on behalf of the Director of Facilities, Transportation and Capital Projects.

School Name	Project Type	Program	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five
Saltspring Elementary	Seismic Mitigation Program - Seismic Upgrade	Seismic	\$6,750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Phoenix Elementary	Seismic Mitigation Program - Seismic Upgrade (Combined project with Saltspring Elementary)	Seismic	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fernwood Elementary	Seismic Mitigation Program - Seismic Upgrade	Seismic	\$0	\$0	\$2,700,000	\$1,755,000	\$0
Fulford Elementary	Seismic Mitigation Program - Seismic Upgrade (Combined project with Fernwood Elementary)	Seismic	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mayne Island	Seismic Mitigation Program - Seismic Upgrade	Seismic	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$945,000	\$1,350,000



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Galiano Community School	Seismic Mitigation Program - Seismic Upgrade (Combined project with Mayne Island)	Seismic	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Saturna Elementary	Seismic Mitigation Program - Seismic Upgrade (Combined project with Pender Islands)	Seismic	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pender Islands	Seismic Mitigation Program - Seismic Upgrade	Seismic	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,012,500
Total Request Per Year Major Capital			\$6,750,000	\$0	\$2,700,000	\$2,700,000	\$2,362,500

Moved and seconded that the Board approves the 2024/2025 Five Year Capital Plan, Major Submission.

CARRIED 58/23

(d) Carbon Neutral Report 2022 Draft Submission

The report was shared with the Board. There was discussion that funding is available to the board to reduce the carbon footprint through the offset credits we and other districts pay.

(e) New Spaces Fund – Saturna Early Learning Centre

It was announced that the New Spaces Fund application for an Early Learning Centre at Saturna School was successful. Work is in process to tender the project to action the funding.

(f) Feeding Futures Fund

There was discussion about the staffing required to coordinate the distribution of the fund and that using money from the fund is allowed by the Ministry to provide that coordination. It is believed to be multiyear investment. There was discussion about the equity of distribution of the fund.

(g) Hydro Field

There was discussion about improvements to the hydro field through the donation of a private benefactor to enhance women’s fastpitch infrastructure. The project will proceed in partnership with the Capital Regional District to undertake and manage the improvements.

Moved and seconded to extend the meeting by fifteen minutes.

CARRIED 59/23

Trustees Katrensky and Georgeson left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.



10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(a) **Committee of the Whole**

The Committee of the Whole summary 2023 05 15 was received.

(b) **Policy Committee**

The Policy Committee summary 2023 05 10 was received.

i. **Policy 1.50 Policy Development and Currency**

A notice of motion was presented at the April public meeting and the policy was circulated for feedback. No further amendments have been recommended by the Policy Committee.

Moved and seconded that the Board adopts Policy 1.50 Policy Development and Currency.

CARRIED 60/23

Moved and seconded that the Board repeals Policy and Procedure 135 Policy Development and Implementation and procedural forms 135-1 and 135-2.

CARRIED 61/23

ii. **Policy and Procedure 410 Student Transportation**

The policy and procedure were amended to update practice. A notice of motion was presented at the April public meeting and the policy and procedure were circulated for feedback. The Policy Committee recommends amending 5 a iv to state “To meet the needs of grade 6 to 9 students from Pender, Mayne, Saturna and Galiano Islands who are registered in French Immersion within their designated catchment area.”

Moved and seconded that the Board adopts Policy and Procedure 410 Student Transportation as amended.

CARRIED 62/23

iii. **Procedure 525 Residential Catchment Areas**

The procedure was amended to update practice. A notice of motion was presented at the April public meeting and the policy was circulated for feedback. The policy committee has considered the feedback. The policy committee recommends amending 5 to state “Students wishing to enrol in Late French Immersion within their catchment areas are required to complete an application specific to the French Immersion Program. The application form is available on the district website.”

Moved and seconded that the Board adopts Procedure 525 Residential Catchment Areas as amended.

CARRIED 63/23

iv. **Policy 2.50 Public Interest Disclosure/Whistleblower Protection**

The policy was amended to incorporate procedures and reflect legislative requirements. A notice of motion was presented at the May public meeting and the amended policy was circulated for feedback. No further amendments have been recommended by the Policy Committee.



Moved and seconded that the Board adopts Policy 2.50 Public Interest Disclosure/Whistleblower Protection.

CARRIED 64/23

Moved and seconded that the Board repeals Policy and Procedure 132 Public Interest Disclosure/Whistleblower Protection.

CARRIED 65/23

v. Bylaw #3 School Act – Section 11 Appeals Procedure

Bylaw #3 was amended to update practice in alignment with the *School Act*. The Bylaw received first reading at the May 10 public meeting and was circulated for feedback. No further amendments have been recommended by the Policy Committee.

Moved and seconded that the amended Bylaw No. 3 School Act – Section 11 Appeals Procedures be read a second time and passed.

CARRIED 66/23

Moved and seconded that the amended Bylaw No. 3 School Act – Section 11 Appeals be read a third time, passed, and adopted.

CARRIED 67/23

vi. Diversity Policy Working Group Summary Report

The Committee received the report during their morning meeting.

Moved and seconded that the Board instruct staff to update policies related to the work in alignment with the recommendations contained in the report.

CARRIED 68/23

11. TRUSTEES REPORTS

Trustee school reports were received.

Topic: What Strategies and resources are we leaving with students and families to promote continued learning beyond the school year? (Objective 3.1: Cultivate connections that enhance intellectual, human & social, and career development for our students.)

Fernwood Elementary School

Fulford Community Elementary School

Activities and suggestions:

- Home reading is encouraged and directly supported when school is out
- We encourage our parents to join in with nature programs offered in the community.
- We suggest parents connect with friends for play and simple excursions
- Fulford recommends that children connect as possible with community mentors, elders and extended family as much as possible
- In report cards and writing we encourage most families to make trips to the library, listen to audio books for long drives, do 'real world' math (baking, card games, set up a lemonade stand), and for writing we are recommending every child to keep a summer journal, write grocery lists, etc.



- For some of our more vulnerable learners, we have recommended tutoring with Ardice McCrea, or the use of online apps.
- Many students are encouraged to practice using their 'Emotional Thermometer' to communicate their emotions with their parents. https://youtu.be/ToQn9EIz_yg. They will take home the Emotional Thermometer home to refer to over the summer.

Galiano Community School

Gulf Islands Secondary School

Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School

At Mayne School the staff have been reviewing individual student progress in relationship to their school goals. In particular, student writing is a significant focus and as the school year ends, some additional teacher support has allowed for a writing 'sprint' throughout the month of June. The sprints allow the staff to extend the students learning in the Six plus One Traits of writing and continue their enthusiasm for writing. Each student will be engaging in a 'book look' with their parents on the final day. As part of the final sprint, students had books published by Shutterfly to bring home on the last day.

Following these final assessments, the staff identifies learning areas requiring additional support over the summer to help lessen the possibility of the 'summer slump'. Going into July, every student is provided with a journal and writing instrument: pens for the older children and pencils for the younger children. The students have demonstrated and engaged willingly in the writing process, and they are excited about what they have been able to accomplish. The school wants to support this enthusiasm as the students shift their writing environment from the school to the home. Teachers will be ensuring that books and math games are also going home with students for the summer break. The joy of a smaller school community is individualizing the necessary supplies and activities for each student. An educational 'bingo' will also be going home. This fun activity can be shared with the entire family and possibly include those summer visitors: cousins and grandparents!

From the parent's perspective, summer time is full of juggling and searching for activities to break up and balance the adults working at home, and the lack of on-Island 'camp type' events for students. Families are on their own to search the web, make calls or gather details from their neighbours when it comes to planning summer activities for their children. Even though the pandemic provided an opportunity for working at home, which has been received well for the most part, the key word is 'working'. Parents have employer commitments at home which makes it challenging to have their students at work with them. Awareness of possible activities both on and off Island is limited, and those families whose children have specific learning needs are even more challenged to find opportunities for their children away from home.

Pender Islands Elementary Secondary School

Phoenix Elementary School

Salt Spring Elementary School

Saturna Elementary School/SEEC



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12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Chair Boulter accepted questions from the public.

Moved and seconded to extend the meeting by fifteen minutes.

CARRIED 69/23

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

Trustees discussed whether or not to include committee days a part of the published agenda.

- (a) Regular Board Meeting: September 13, 2023 at the SBO
- (b) Committee Day (all morning): Policy, September 27, 2023 via Zoom

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved that the meeting be adjourned 4:00 p.m.

CARRIED 70/23

Date: September 14, 2023

Tisha Boulter
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Scott Benwell
Acting Secretary Treasurer