



| | | |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Present: | Tisha Boulter Chaya Katrensky Gregory Lucas Deborah Luporini Rob Pingle Nancy Macdonald Scott Benwell D'Arcy Deacon Boe Beardsmore Lori Deacon Anna Szul | Board Chair Vice-Chair Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Superintendent / Acting Secretary Treasurer Deputy Superintendent Associate Superintendent Acting Director of Corporate Services Executive Assistant |
| Guests: | Ian Mitchell Amy Dearden Samantha Creech Sara Miles | GITA President District Principal Early Childhood DPAC Representative |
| Regrets: | Jeannine Georgeson | Trustee |

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Boulter. Trustee Lucas welcomed everyone to Pender Island Elementary School on *SDAY,ES* (Pender), *SKÁ,ETEM* (Otter Bay), and Pender Canal. Trustee Lucas expressed gratitude that we gather on the traditional territories of the Hul'qumi'num, *SENĆOŦEN*, and *W̓sáneć* speaking peoples – huy tseep q'u.

With the intention of holding a safe caring and orderly meeting for all, Chair Boulter pledged to do her best to maintain a respectful and inclusive working environment by holding this meeting to the highest standards of civility and appropriate conduct so that we may attend to our business in an effective and productive manner.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2023 10 11 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED 81/23

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Correction to attendance.

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2023 09 13 be approved as amended.

CARRIED 82/23

3. IN-CAMERA SUMMARIES



Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt the Regular In-Camera Summary of 2023 09 13 by consensus.

CARRIED 83/23

4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **GITA –Foundation Skills Assessment Motion Request**

The Board of Education received the correspondence from GITA.

(b) **Deputy Minister Letter to Superintendents & FSA Pamphlet**

The Board of Education received the correspondence from the Deputy Minister.

6. **DELEGATIONS**

(a) **Amy Dearden and Samantha Creech – Early Learning Environment Scan**

District Principal of Early Learning, Amy Dearden, and Early Learning Coordinator, Samantha Creech presented an inspiring summary of the Early Learning Program. The Early Learning webpage on the SD64 website contains information on the program and initiatives including StrongStart, Ready, Set, Learn, SEY2KT, Roots of Empathy, Seamless Day, ECEs in Kindergarten Classrooms, and all Resources for families.

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

(a) **Superintendent Recruitment**

The Superintendent call closed on October 10 at 3:00 p.m. In-person interviews will be conducted on November 1 and 2.

(b) **Galiano Library Society request to serve alcohol on School District Property**

Moved and seconded that, in accordance with Policy 3100 Controlled and Intoxicating Substances, the Board of Education approves the Galiano Library Society's request to serve alcohol during a volunteer appreciation event on November 26, 2023, at The Galiano Community Library. Carried unanimously.

CARRIED 84/23

(c) **School Calendar Consultation Schedule**

The Board presented a School Calendar Consultation Schedule and Notice of Motion to consider the adoption of school calendars for 2025/26 and 2026/2027 as part of the district's 3-year calendar. The motion will be presented at the regular Public Board meeting on February 14, 2024. The Notice of Motion will be added to the website along with the draft calendars and an online comments form for public input.



Notice of Motion: The Board of Education adopt school calendars for the 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 school years as part of the local three-year school calendar.

(d) **Communications Strategy – Board Chair’s Message**

Chair Boulter summarized the communications strategy to date. Lori Deacon stated that a review of the communication strategy should follow the implementation of the new strategic plan. Trustee Pingle mentioned the desire for newsletter standardization amongst the various schools and the possibility of subscribing to all school newsletters through the app.

(e) **District Playing Fields**

Trustee Pingle brought this issue up at the last meeting and then received a letter from a parent.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education direct staff to investigate the availability of water on school district property in the Ganges core for the purpose of irrigation of the playing fields. The motion was unanimously defeated.

A discussion was had on the viability of the fields, and what can be put in place of the deficiencies.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education request staff to report back on annual maintenance costs of the GISS playing fields and that they canvas for the cost to employ an expert opinion on how to improve the use of the fields to report at the February 14, 2024 board meeting. Unanimously carried.

CARRIED 85/23

(f) **2023 BC Active Transportation Grant for the Schooner Way Trail – Letter of Support**

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education provide a letter of support to the CRD for the application to the 2023 BC Active Transportation Grant Application for the Schooner Way Trail.

CARRIED 86/23

8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

(a) **Enrolment – 1701**

The District reported a headcount enrolment of 1508 students (1515.75 FTE) on this year’s September 30th, 1701 funding report to the Ministry. Appreciation was expressed for the cooperation of the acting principal of the Salt Spring Centre School for working collaboratively.

(b) **Staffing**

The District staffing is set, and most positions were filled, proud to note that we exceed the non-enrolling teacher ratios at this time.

(c) **Capacity of Elementary Schools on Salt Spring Island**



Based on the Ministry's adjusted design capacity numbers, there is currently room for 45 more students in SD64 Salt Spring Island elementary schools, not including Phoenix Elementary School.

(d) **Programs and Initiatives relating to Diversity, Anti-Racism, Equity, Inclusion, and Truth and Reconciliation**

Boe Beardsmore presented an overview of the district's collective work in equity and anti-racism. In 2020 the Board committed to dismantling racism through anti-racism learning and diversity training, deepening our awareness and understanding of individual, institutional, and structural racism. The activities and initiatives in the district over the last three years are evidence of our commitment to the work, including but not limited to professional development for staff; engaging experts in the field for presentations and discussions with staff and students; new and revised policies and procedures; updating the strategic plan; renewed codes of conduct; staff training; equity scans in all schools; restorative justice training for PVPs, teachers and EAs; Indigenous Ed programs; new resources in libraries, and the hiring of an Equity and Anti-Racism Coordinator for K-12. This is just the beginning. The next steps include a follow-up teacher survey to better understand evolving perceptions and pedagogical practices; a survey for PVPs to provide baseline data regarding comfort and integration, concerns and challenges, and perceptions and practices in school culture and climate; Pro-D for teachers and PVPs for development and training in the areas outlined in the K-12AR Action Plan; an inclusion calendar; and a parent info guide on how to report acts of racism and discrimination.

9. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

(a) **Monthly Financial Report**

The monthly operating expense report indicates expenses are currently within budget.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) **Education Committee – 2023 02 22 Summary**

The Board of Education received the Education Committee Summary from 2023 02 22.

(b) **Policy Committee – 2023 09 27 Summary**

The Board of Education received the Policy Committee Summary from 2023 09 27.

(c) **Committee of the Whole – 2023 09 13**

The Board of Education received the Committee of the Whole Summary from 2023 09 13.

11. TRUSTEES' SCHOOL REPORTS

Chair Boulter attended two board chair calls provincially. One about board meeting interruptions especially around anti-social protests. Second board chairs meeting about upcoming Advocacy Day. Attended Framework



Day and appreciated the Keynote Speaker. On the Indigenous Ed Council Committee. Deep respect and humility for relationship building.

Vice Chair Katraksy met with the strategic planning sub-committee. Reached out to Gordon Lee at BCSTA for help with the strategic plan. Going to VISTA this weekend and the Provincial Council next weekend.

Trustee MacDonald stated that Fulford School is an incredibly busy place. They recently hosted a harvest lunch and a school dance.

Trustee Luporini thanked Adrian Pendergast for stepping in at Mayne Island School. Great to have the early learning presentation. Family Place on Mayne Island provides childcare two nights a week and the school PAC fills in the other two nights. The teacherage project got out into the wider community and a senior from Vancouver, made a quilt and donated it to raffle off as a fundraiser.

Trustee Pingle connected with the SSE PAC about the playground replacement. Working with facilities to bring information back to the PAC.

Trustee Lucas attended two meetings with the PAC which has new members. Exciting initiatives around food days. Good meeting with Principal Margot. Attended the first meeting with the joint health and safety committee. Framework day was a wonderful opportunity to meet with teachers. The presentation by Gwendolyn Point was incredible and a privilege. Looking forward to VISTA.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Policy Committee Meeting – December 13, 2023, via Zoom
- (b) Regular Board Meeting – January 14, 2024, at the School Board Office

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn at 3:30 p.m.

CARRIED 80/23

Date: November 9, 2023

Tisha Boulter
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Scott Benwell
Acting Secretary Treasurer