



Present:	Tisha Boulter	Board Chair
	Chaya Katrensky	Vice-Chair
	Jeannine Georgeson	Trustee
	Gregory Lucas	Trustee
	Deborah Luporini	Trustee
	Nancy Macdonald	Trustee
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Jill Jensen	Superintendent of Schools/ Acting Secretary Treasurer
	Boe Beardsmore	Associate Superintendent
	Lyall Ruehlen	Director of Instruction
Lori Deacon	Director of Corporate Services	
Anna Szul	Executive Assistant	
Guests:	Colin Whyte	Director of Operations
	John Martin	Financial Advisor (via Zoom)
	Angela Thomas	CUPE Representative
	Ian Mitchell	GITA President
	Adrien Pendergast	GIPVPA Chair
	Ryan Massey	GISS Principal
	Soley Lapp	Student Council Co-President
	Clair Hunwicks	Student Council Co-President
	Maya Drake	Student Council Vice-President
	Haylee Gudes-Buckley	Student Council Member at Large
Lucie Luke	Student Council Treasurer	
Regrets:	Candice Arthur	DPAC Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Boulter. Trustee Macdonald gratefully acknowledged that we held this meeting on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish communities, specifically the Hul’qumi’num, and SENĆOŦEN speaking peoples – huy tseep q’u.

Chair Boulter read the opening statement: With the intention of holding a safe, caring, and orderly meeting for all we pledge: To do our best to maintain a respectful and inclusive working environment. We will hold this meeting to the highest standard of civility and appropriate conduct so that we may attend to our business effectively and productively.



2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

10 (b) 2023/2024 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw moved up after delegation.

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2024 02 14 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED 13/24

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2024 01 10 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 14/24

4. **IN-CAMERA SUMMARIES**

The Board of Education adopted the Regular In-Camera Summary for 2024 01 10 by consensus.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING**

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) Report Feedback**

Chair Boulter emphasized that the document presented is akin to our "report card" from the ministry, illustrating the diligent efforts of our staff. She commended the report's overall quality, acknowledging that the areas for improvement highlighted were expected, affirming that there is space for improvement.

Jill Jensen emphasized that the report is a testament to the outstanding efforts of our staff over several years, culminating in our current achievements. She acknowledged the dedication and hard work contributed by senior staff, principals, vice principals, teachers, support staff, and operational staff, all of whom play pivotal roles in the success of our students. With students consistently performing well, Jensen stressed the importance of recognizing and celebrating this success throughout the district.

7. **DELEGATIONS**

(a) **GISS Student Council**

Claira Hunwicks, Soley Lapp, Haylee Guedes-Buckley, Lucie Luke, and Maya Drake introduced themselves and provided a summary of the duties of the student council. The student council comprises a diverse and passionate group of students united by their aim to effect positive change throughout their entire school. Proposed in 2022 and established in 2023, the GISS Student Council undergoes annual elections at the beginning of each school year, with peers casting votes for their representatives. Weekly meetings are convened to deliberate proposals brought forth by the general student body, with the council voting on these proposals and formulating plans accordingly. Additionally, the student council serves as a focal point for administrative initiatives and ideas,



facilitating surveys of the student body's opinions. The overarching objective is to foster meaningful connections between GISS administration and the student body.

Noteworthy initiatives from the previous year encompassed the reinstatement of school dances and the introduction of a Student Feedback Survey, enabling students to provide anonymous feedback to teachers regarding their classes.

This year's proposals are centered around the following initiatives:

- Organizing a Mental Health Workshop in collaboration with the administration, featuring guest speakers.
- Implementing a Sexual Consent Workshop into the CLC 12 curriculum, with guest speakers, making it a mandatory component.
- Organizing Scholarship Night dedicated to grade 12 students, aimed at alleviating stress for the graduating class.
- Installing urinal dividers in bathrooms to enhance privacy and comfort.
- Reviving clubs within the school community, with efforts to expand the range of available options. Currently, the most popular clubs include the Debate Club and Art Club.

1:23 p.m. Ryan Massey, Clairra Hunwicks, Soley Lapp, Haylee Guedes-Buckley, Lucie Luke, and Maya Drake left the meeting.

10. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

(b) **2023/2024 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw**

Unanimous consent that the 2023/2024 Amended Budget Bylaw receives all three readings at this time.

CARRIED 15/24

Tisha Boulter read the 2023/2024 Amended Budget Bylaw, prepared in accordance with the *School Act*.

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

CARRIED 16/24

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

CARRIED 17/24

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

CARRIED 18/24



1:35 p.m. John Martin left the meeting.

8. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

(a) **Instructional Calendar Adoption**

The Board of Education has concluded its consultation process for adoption of the 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 draft instructional calendars.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt the instructional school calendars for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 school years.

CARRIED 19/24

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

(a) **Staffing**

The spring staffing process has commenced, with school principals gathering their projected enrollment figures for September.

(b) **Projected Enrolment**

The district foresees a decline in student enrollment, with an initial estimate suggesting a decrease of approximately 60-70 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students compared to last September's reported figures. This decrease is attributed to a notably large graduating class and a significantly smaller incoming kindergarten class.

(c) **Cell Phones in Schools**

Following Premier David Eby's January 26, 2024 announcement, school districts will be expected to restrict the use of personal devices during instructional periods in order to safeguard students against online risks and protect instruction time from digital distractions. Provincial direction will follow and may include recommendations for policy development, official guidelines, administrative practices, or requirements within school Codes of Conduct.

(d) **Equitable Hiring Special Programs Application (LOU 4)**

The goal of Letter of Understanding (LOU) #4 is to ensure that the diversity of the student population is reflected in those who teach them. Currently, 10% of SD64 students are of Indigenous ancestry, and the district, in partnership with the local teachers' union, is working towards achieving that same representation percentage of employees through new hiring practices.

10. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

(a) **Monthly Financial Report**

The monthly operating expense report reveals that expenses are within 0.3% of the annual budget.

(c) **BMO Signing Authority**

Lori Deacon shared an updated letter and appendixes for the Bank of Montreal (appendixes A and B are attached to the minutes).



Moved and seconded that, effective April 1, 2024, the Board of Education approves the changes to the signing authority for the Educational Trust Fund Account as presented in Appendix 'A'.

CARRIED 20/24

Moved and seconded that, effective April 1, 2024, the Board of Education approves the changes to the signing authority for the Operating Bank Account as presented in Appendix 'B'.

CARRIED 21/24

(d) **GISS Playing Fields, Annual Expenses**

Colin Whyte provided an overview of the yearly expenses associated with maintaining the GISS playing fields. Expenses are projected based on the assumption of unrestricted watering, although watering restrictions are in place during the summer months.

While there are cost savings due to water restrictions, the educational spaces remain inaccessible to students when they need them. The question arose whether investing in water catchment systems could ensure that these fields are available to our students when they require them.

Trustee Pingle inquired about water catchment irrigation options. Trustee Macdonald requested an inquiry into the expenses associated with water containment and explored the feasibility of utilizing water from the water treatment plant. During the discussion, it was mentioned that purple pipes already exist, connecting the water treatment facility to the GISS playing fields. While the water is generally suitable, it might require tertiary treatment to address potential concerns before use.

The discussion was tabled until the Finance, Audit, and Facilities Committee meeting on April 10, 2024.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) **Committee of the Whole**

Chair Boulter provided an overview of the morning's Committee of the Whole meeting. The draft strategic plan will undergo review by staff for internal consultation and feedback from partner groups, then return to the COW subcommittee before being released to the public for further consultation.

(b) **Education Committee** – no report

(c) **Finance, Audit, and Facilities Committee** – 2024 01 10 Summary received.



(d) **Policy Committee**

i. Bylaw #2 Board Procedures

The Board considered revisions of the Procedural Bylaw as part of its policy renovation. The draft policy was circulated on January 16. No feedback was received. Housekeeping amendments were made to formatting and sentence structure.

Moved and seconded that The Board of Education give second reading to amended Bylaw #2 Board Procedures as amended.

CARRIED 22/24

Moved and seconded that The Board of Education give third reading to emended Bylaw #2 Board Procedures as amended, passed and approved.

CARRIED 23/24

ii. Policy 1.30 Trustee Code of Conduct

The draft policy was circulated on January 16th. No feedback was received.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt Policy 1.30 Trustee Code of Conduct.

CARRIED 24/24

iii. Policy 1.31 Addressing Breaches of the Code of Conduct

The draft policy was circulated on January 16th. No feedback was received.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt Policy 1.31 Addressing Breaches of the Code of Conduct.

CARRIED 25/24

iv. Policy 107 Trustee Code of Conduct

The draft policy was circulated on January 16th. No feedback was received.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education repeal Policy 107 Trustee Code of Conduct.

CARRIED 26/24

v. Policy 1.32 Trustee Conflict of Interest

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt Policy 1.32 Trustee Conflict of Interest.

CARRIED 27/24



12. TRUSTEES' REPORTS

Trustee Macdonald provided an update regarding the initiative for a new playground, expressing support through a written letter. Additionally, she reported on a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting where Cheryl Ruff addressed attendees. Macdonald also noted the French Immersion enrollment open house held at SSE. Notably, she highlighted the recognition of Cat Lightfoot and Kari Holmes for their 35 years of service in the district. Lastly, Macdonald mentioned the forthcoming presentation by The White Hatter at SSE.

Trustee Katrensky provided an update on the commencement of a new SEEC Vice-Principal starting today. She also announced a Virtual Provincial Council meeting scheduled for the upcoming Saturday, as well as the VISTA event planned for March. Katrensky noted that there were no emergent motions to address.

Trustee Georgeson passed.

Trustee Luporini conveyed the collective excitement surrounding the opening of the Mayne Island teacherage and reminded everyone that fundraising is continuing. Both Trustee Luporini joined Trustee Lucas to attend the Pender PAC meeting since there are families on Mayne who have children attending Pender. There are wonderful presentations coming up on internet safety, featuring the White Hatter.

Trustee Lucas reported positive progress in the Feeding Futures collaboration, particularly in local food initiatives. Additionally, the PAC is currently in the midst of organizing a winter carnival. Furthermore, there is an ongoing Readathon initiative in collaboration with the PAC and teachers aimed at raising funds to enhance educational opportunities. There is an upcoming presentation around cellphone safety regarding sexual predators, in collaboration with the local police detachment.

Trustee Pingle highlighted the province's announcement regarding BC Builds, aimed at reducing construction costs for middle-income families. This initiative involves leveraging government, community, and non-profit-owned underused land. Given the ongoing deliberations on the future use of the Phoenix School Site property, Pingle suggested that this presents a timely opportunity to consider establishing a teacherage on Salt Spring Island.

Trustee Boulter attended PAC meetings at Fulford and GISS where Cheryl Ruff gave presentations on the importance of engaging people in conversations about racial equity and noted the establishment of a network of resources and plans that will endure beyond her current position. Both schools have been developing cell phone policies and putting them into practice. Principal Ryan Massey of GISS posed insightful questions to parents at the PAC meeting regarding accessing information about their children's education. The GISS PAC is actively fundraising for sports equipment and aims to acquire a bus. Boulter participated in a partner liaison meeting with Scott Benwell and Jill Jensen, where "human flourishing" emerged as a new buzzword. Discussions also touched upon the province's status as a high-performing educational system and the vision for "High-Performance Schools for Tomorrow." Other interesting topics



included artificial intelligence, Bill 40, Indigenous learners, and considerations of parental rights from a legal standpoint in a presentation by Michael Hancock.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) **CRA Signing Authority**

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education remove Nancy MacDonald, Shelly Lawson, and Anna Herlitz as business owners on the CRA account of The Board of Education of School District No 64 and add Jesse Guy, Dawn Sawchuk, and Jill Jensen.

CARRIED 28/24

14. QUESTION PERIOD

15. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Regular Board Meeting – April 10, 2024
- (b) Policy Committee Meeting – February 21, 2024
- (c) Finance, Audit & Facilities Committee Meeting – February 21, 2024

16. ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn at 3:12 p.m.

CARRIED 29/24

Date: April 10, 2024

Tisha Boulter
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Jill Jensen
Acting Secretary Treasurer



APPENDIX 'A'

Signing authority for the Educational Trust Fund Account #1015 455:

Effective April 1, 2024

1. For amounts up to and including \$10,000:

Jill Jensen, Chief Executive Officer; or
Boe Beardsmore, Associate Superintendent

with

Jesse Guy, Secretary Treasurer, or
Lori Deacon, Director of Corporate Services

2. For amounts over \$10,000:

Jesse Guy, Secretary Treasurer, or
Jill Jensen, Chief Executive Officer

with

Tisha Boulter, Board Chair, or
Rob Pingle, Trustee



APPENDIX 'B'

Signing authority for the Operating Bank Account #1003 104:

Effective April 1, 2024

1. For amounts up to and including \$10,000:

Jill Jensen, Chief Executive Officer; or
Boe Beardsmore, Associate Superintendent

with

Jesse Guy, Secretary Treasurer, or
Lori Deacon, Director of Corporate Services

Except for Receiver General, Payroll Deductions, Utilities and yearly contracts signed or approved by the Board on behalf of the Board.

(When signing authorities for amounts over \$10,000 apply).

2. For amounts over \$10,000:

Jesse Guy, Secretary Treasurer, or
Jill Jensen, Chief Executive Officer,

with

Tisha Boulter, Board Chair, or
Rob Pingle, Trustee