



Present:	Chaya Katrensky Deborah Luporini Gregory Lucas Tisha Boulter Nancy Macdonald Rob Pingle Jeannine Georgeson Jill Jensen Jesse Guy Lori Deacon Boe Beardsmore Lyall Ruehlen Shauna Klem	Chairperson (on-line) Vice Chairperson Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Superintendent of Schools Secretary Treasurer Director of Corporate Services Associate Superintendent Director of Instruction Executive Assistant
Guests:	Ian Mitchell Angela Thomas Poppy, Maya and Flora Ryan Massey	GITA President CUPE President GISS Student Council Principal, GISS
Absent:		DPAC Representative GIPVPA Representative

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Vice Chair Deborah Luporini, acting Chair for this meeting. Acting Chair Luporini spoke to the privilege and gratitude of living on the sacred traditional territory of the Coast Salish communities, specifically the Hul'qumi'num and SENCŌTEN speaking peoples – huy tseep q'u.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2025 04 09 was adopted as presented by consensus.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2025 02 26 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 30/25

4. **IN-CAMERA SUMMARIES**

Moved and seconded that the Summary of the Regular In-Camera Meeting for 2025 02 26 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 31/25



Moved and seconded that the Summary of the Special In-Camera Meeting for 2025 03 12 be approved as presented.

CARRIED 32/35

5. **DELEGATIONS**

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

a. **Spring VISTA Conference K D B U**

Trustees attended the VISTA Spring Conference in Victoria. Some highlights of the conference were: a tour of newly renovated Victoria High School, hearing about the Sooke food program and the cybersecurity presentation.

b. **Board Chair/Partner Liaison Meeting**

Chair Katrensky shared that she enjoyed two very full days of learning at the Meeting of Board Chairs on March 6, and the Ministry of Education and Child Care Partner Liaison Meeting on March 7. Of note were discussions about bargaining, managing difficult conversations, childcare, Seamless Day and food accessibility.

c. **BCSTA Motions**

Trustees will be attending the BCSTA AGM May 24-26. Boards of Educations across the province will be considering a number of motions at the AGM. Chair Katrensky reported that the intention of sharing these motions prior to the meeting is to make the work of trustees, on a provincial level, visible to the public.

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

a. **Indigenous Education Council Update K D B U**

District staff will be meeting with local rights holders on April 17 at Khowutzun Heritage Center to discuss Indigenous Education Council possibilities.

b. **Staffing and Enrollment**

Lyall Ruehlen updated the Board on the spring staffing process. Fall 2025 student enrollment projections and early school configuration work is ongoing. The District is anticipating a decline in enrolment next year, primarily due to a larger graduating class and a smaller intake of kindergarten students.

c. **Strategic Direction – District Update K**

Superintendent Jensen spoke about the Deeper Learning team's visit to SEEC (Saturna Ecological Education Centre) and the Grade 6/7 Science Fair attended by all three Salt Spring Island elementary schools. Superintendent Jensen shared the Addressing Concerns document posted on the Parent Information and Resources page of the District website and reminded listeners that complaints and concerns are best addressed in a manner that reflects mutual respect.

d. **Student Council Update K U**



Representatives of GISS Student Council presented the information gathered from their school wide interviews. Some students interviewed expressed concerns about class assignment deadlines, feeling unprepared for adulting tasks, and school technology. Many stated they felt very satisfied with the sport facilities, but that fields are often unusable in winter. The Student Council learned that many students were unaware they could visit school counsellors for support. Water taxi riders suggested mid-day extra-curricular activities would be a preference to after school.

The Student Council representatives shared with the Board that most GISS students reported that they have a trusted adult at school, that they feel prepared for the future academically, and that they appreciate the number of extracurricular activities offered.

9. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

a. **Monthly Financial Report D**

The monthly operating expense report reveals that expenses are within 0.04% of the amended budget.

b. **2025/26 Capital Plan Response Letter and Bylaw – 3 Readings D**

Jesse Guy shared the Capital Bylaw No. 2025/26 – CPSD64-01. Approved projects include interior upgrades at SSE and Saturna Elementary, installation of electrical bus chargers at Pender and Galiano, kitchen upgrades at GISS and Pender, and accessible playground equipment at SSE.

Moved and seconded that there be unanimous consent that Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2025/26 -CPSD64-01 receive all three readings at this time.

CARRIED 33/25

Moved and seconded that the Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2025/65 -CPSD64-01 be read for the first time.

CARRIED 34/25

Moved and seconded that the Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2025/26 -CPSD64-01 be read for the second time.

CARRIED 35/25

Moved and seconded that the Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2025/26 -CPSD64-01 be read for the third time and approved.

CARRIED 36/25

c. **Student Water Taxi Contract Extension B D**

Jesse Guy reported that Gulf Islands Water Taxi and the District have extended the current service contract for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **Committee of the Whole** – no report
- b. **Education Committee** – no report
- c. **Finance, Audit & Facilities Committee** – no report
- d. **Policy Committee** – no report

11. TRUSTEE REPORTS



Trustee Boulter shares that the SSE PAC has been working hard to raise funds for a playground upgrade. At the GISS PAC meeting she learned of the implementation of several new extracurricular sports teams. The GISS Improv team is off to Nationals.

Trustee Macdonald conveyed that Fulford PAC is very active – lots of garden initiatives including a living fence. A grade 6/7 dance is upcoming, as well as a parent education session on anxiety. PAC recently held a book fair and has raised substantial funds to contribute to teacher appreciation.

Trustee Georgeson spoke to events happening on Galiano, including Nettlefest and Kidsfest. She shared that Grade 6/7 students from Penelakut came to visit Galiano and spent the day on the land.

Trustee Lucas shared that the Pender Islands School was gifted a WSÁNEĆ territorial map. The school PAC held Winter Carnival and Read-a-thon which raised \$7,000. On April 15 the Magic Bus Tour will travel to different beaches for beach clean-up. Trustee Lucas also shared that two new Indigenous support staff are joining the team at Pender School.

Vice Chair Loporini shared a Mayne Island community call out for the school play. Mayne Island Elementary has been focusing on inquiry-based learning and noticing an increase in student led action.

Chair Katrensky reported that Saturna Elementary School has introduced a robotics program, literacy screening and a composting system. She spoke about the Better at Home Society - a program bringing seniors into the classrooms to read with students.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

The Acting Chair accepted questions from delegates and the public.

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

- a. Regular Board Meeting – May 14, 2025
- b. Policy Committee and Committee of the Whole – April 23, 2025 at Pender Islands School

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn at 2:09 p.m.

CARRIED 37/25

Date: May 14, 2025

Chaya Katrensky
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Jesse Guy
Secretary Treasurer