



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands)
Mayne Island School
2022 05 11

Present:	Tisha Boulter	Chairperson
	Chaya Katrensky	Vice Chairperson
	Stefanie Denz	Trustee
	Janelle Lawson	Trustee
	Shelley Lawson	Trustee
	Greg Lucas	Trustee
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Scott Benwell	Superintendent of Schools
	Jesse Guy	Secretary Treasurer
	D'Arcy Deacon	Director of Instruction, Human Resources
	Boe Beardsmore	Director of Instruction, Learning Services
	Lori Deacon	Executive Assistant
	Amy Dearden	GIPVPA Representative
	Adrian Pendergast	GIPVPA Representative
Regrets:	Ian Mitchell	GITA President
	Angela Thomas	CUPE President
		DPAC Representative

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Chair Boulter. Trustee Janelle Lawson acknowledged with gratitude that this meeting is taking place on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples. She reflected on the traditional names given to local areas/landmarks - huy tseep q'u.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

GISS Rowing Trip (8d)

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2022 05 11 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED 34/22

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Include Galiano Trustee School Report

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2022 04 13 be approved as amended.

CARRIED 35/22

3. IN-CAMERA SUMMARY

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopt the Regular In-Camera Summary of 2022 04 13 as presented.

CARRIED 36/22

4. BUSINESS ARISING

5. CORRESPONDENCE

6. DELEGATIONS



(a) **Anti-Racism Advocacy Working Group Report**

SSI BIPOC collective members Hughson Welch and Sharyn Carroll presented with Boe Beardsmore on the work of the Anti-Racism Advocacy Working Group Report. They shared a history of the formation and expectations of the working group and the importance of establishing trust. The group focused on policy research and development and determining what is needed for change. A survey tool was developed to establish baselines across the district that will serve to prioritize anti-racism education efforts, identify barriers, and support staff in their awareness and capacity. 96% of respondents reported that anti-racism education was very important to them. Next steps include acquiring more anti-racism resources, growing opportunities for learning and modelling, developing a district online database, and increasing anti-racism related communication throughout the district

(b) **Hakai Institute Student Opportunity – Adrian Pendergast**

Principal Adrian Pendergast presented on the proposed SEEC field trip to Calvert Island and the Hakai Research Institute. This opportunity represents the first time students from outside of the central coast have been invited to study at the Institute. SEEC students will get to learn from and with researchers at a world-class facility, comparing Gulf Islands and Central Coast ecosystems. Continued efforts to grow partnerships such as the one with the Tula Foundation will benefit Gulf Islands students by expanding connections to and involvement in the vast research taking place in BC's coastal regions.

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

(a) **Anti-Racism Advocacy Working Group Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference was recommended by the Committee of the Whole for adoption

Moved and seconded that the Board adopts the terms of reference for the Anti-Racism Advocacy Working Group for the 2022/23 to 2023/24 school years.

CARRIED 37/22

(b) **Board Meeting Format**

Trustees discussed a return to in-person meetings and the possibility of acquiring portable A/V equipment to allow a hybrid of in-person and on-line meetings. Discussion regarding the importance of transparency and the potential barrier to open conversation.

Moved and seconded that staff research livestreaming technology and appropriateness for future board meetings, to be brought to the June Board meeting.

CARRIED 38/22

(c) **Draft 2022/2023 Board Meetings Schedule**

Small changes from the current year's schedule format including moving committee meetings.

Moved and seconded that the Board adopts the 2022/2023 Board Meetings Schedule.

Moved and seconded to amend the motion and modify the meeting schedule as follows:

- move the October committee Day to November 23rd
- move the October Board Meeting to December 14th
- exchange locations of the December and June board meetings

CARRIED 39/22

Moved and seconded that the Board adopts the 2022/2023 Board Meetings Schedule as amended.

CARRIED 40/22



(d) **Strategic Plan Renewal Process**

Scott Benwell shared a visual for Strategic Plan renewal. The board must decide who it wishes to facilitate the process. BCSTA has resources to support trustees with the task.

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

(a) **Staffing**

The SEEC Vice-Principal position has been filled. This week is the deadline, as per collective agreement, for notifying teachers who have been determined surplus to need. Staff continue to work closely with schools to identify configuration and staffing needs for next year.

(b) **SEEC Field Trip Request**

The SEEC field trip to Hakai Institute is considered moderate risk and must receive Board approval.

Moved and seconded that the Board approves the Grade 10-11 SEEC field trip to Hakai Institute on Calvert Island and camping on Northern Vancouver Island, June 5-10, 2022 for the purpose of marine research and environmental study.

CARRIED 41/22

(c) **GISPA Program Fees 2022/2023**

GISS has requested that GISPA program fees be restored to the pre-COVID amount to support performance, workshop, and field trip opportunities,

Moved and seconded that the Board approves the GISPA Program Fees of \$1,500 for the 2022/2023 school year.

CARRIED 42/22

(d) **GISS Rowing Trip Request**

The GISS rowing team qualified on the prior weekend to attend the National Championships.

Moved and seconded that the Board approves the Gulf Islands Secondary School sports trip for five students in grades ten to twelve to attend the Canadian Secondary School Rowing Association National Regatta May 31 to June 5, 2022 in St. Catharines, Ontario.

CARRIED 43/22

A brief recess was called by consensus at 3:00 p.m. The meeting resumed at 3:06 p.m.

9. **SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT**

(a) **Monthly Financial Report**

Jesse Guy shared the monthly financial report for April. The district is 1.6% within amended budget.

(b) **2022/2023 Draft Budget**

Jesse Guy presented key item expenditures, a reconciliation of expenses, and an overview of the draft 2022/2023 budget. The 2022/2023 Budget Bylaw will be presented at the June Board meeting for approval.

(c) **Five Paid Sick Days Legislation**

The estimated maximum yearly expense of five paid sick days for all eligible SD64 sub-casual/on-call employees would be \$140,000. The benefit is only applicable to those who have previously committed to a shift and who have been employed by the district for at least 90 days. Pay is based on an average of the last 30 days' earnings.



(d) Chief Elections Officer

The district must appointment a Chief Elections Officer as per the *Local Government Act* to oversee trustee elections. Joan Axford has offered to serve as Deputy Elections Officer.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education of School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) appoints Secretary Treasurer Jesse Guy as Chief Elections Officer to administer and conduct the school trustee elections on October 15, 2022.

CARRIED 44/22

Motion to extend the meeting to 4:15 p.m. if additional time is needed.

CARRIED 45/22

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Committee of the Whole

The Committee of the Whole summary 2022 04 27 was received.

(b) HR Committee

The HR Committee summary 2022 04 13 was received.

(c) Education Committee

The Education Committee summaries 2022 04 27 was received.

(d) Finance Audit and Facilities Committee

The FAF Committee summary 2022 04 27 was received.

(e) Policy Committee

The Policy Committee summary 2022 04 27 was received.

i. Draft Policy and Procedure 217 Anti-Racism

This policy and procedure were drafted by the Anti-Racism Advocacy Working Group.

Notice of Motion: That the Board adopt Policy and Procedure 217 Anti-Racism. The policy will be circulated for feedback. The motion will be considered by the Board at the June 8, 2022 public meeting.

ii. Policy 611 Accumulated Operating Surplus

Amended to meet Ministry requirements.

Notice of Motion: That the Board approves amendments to Policy 611 Accumulated Operating Surplus. The policy will be circulated for feedback. The motion will be considered by the Board at the June 8, 2022 public meeting.

iii. Draft Policy 610 Financial Planning and Reporting

Draft new policy as required by the Ministry of Education.

Notice of Motion: That the Board adopts new Policy 610 Financial Planning and Reporting. The policy will be circulated for feedback. The motion will be considered by the Board at the June 8, 2022 public meeting.



iv. *Bylaw No. 1 Elections Procedures*

Amended for accuracy and compliance in advance of the October Trustee elections.

Moved and seconded that the amended Bylaw No. 1 Elections Procedures be read a first time and circulated for feedback.

CARRIED 46/22

The Board will consider feedback and move 2nd and 3rd reading at the June 8, 2022 public meeting.

v. *Policy and Procedure 525 Attendance Areas*

Amendments to align language and reflect reconfiguration changes will be brought to the June meeting for the Board's consideration for Notice of Motion and circulation.

vi. *Procedure 120 Board Committees*

Amendments include possible remuneration for standing committees. Additional amendments will be brought to policy committee for consideration.

vii. *Policy and Procedure 215 Diversity*

Staff will be working with partner and advocacy groups to determine next steps. This item will be brought to the next policy meeting for continued discussion.

11. **TRUSTEES' SCHOOL REPORTS**

Trustee reports were received. Janelle Lawson shared her report for Mayne Island School.

Topic: Celebrating bringing our SD64 Enhancement Agreement and 4 Goals (Belonging, Culture, Community, Success) to life in your school and island context (Goal 1: Inspire Learning; Objective 1.2: Champion innovative practices, personalized learning, inquiry-based approaches, and Aboriginal ways of knowing.)

Fernwood Elementary School

Fulford Community Elementary School

One of Fulford School's teachers is leading personalized learning and inquiry based approaches with curiosity projects at grade 5/6 and a simpler form at grade 4/5 with literacy groups.

The Choir of almost half the school population includes many of our Indigenous students. One of them in particular loves to sing one of their current songs, Sing! by Pink Zebra, which is a song that encourages you to find your own voice and have an impact on the world. The choir will be performing at the school on May 18, the day after their choir field trip to sing with the adult choir, The Lost Chords, where they will also have a pizza lunch.

All of Fulford School's students of Indigenous ancestry, plus a few non-Indigenous students, participated in the planting of some rare Indigenous plants grown from seed by a parent, Dr. Tara Martin, in April, in the school garden.

Two classes made nettle pizza with Quentin last week, and the rest of the classes made nettle tea. Students learned about how Indigenous peoples have traditionally used stinging nettles. Quentin has been a great support in the classrooms for indigenous knowledge and his fun energy.

Literacy and some numeracy support is provided to many of the Indigenous students to help them be successful in the foundational skills.



The mental health grant has supported lessons on the taking walks in nature as a calming strategy – sit spots. Fulford School has resumed Whole School Meetings, gathering together weekly as a community expressing gratitude for living, learning and playing on the traditional unceded territories of the Coast Salish people. Nature studies with classes incorporate Indigenous teachings and learnings. The Enhancement agreement supports practices already in place, as well as encouraging the school to grow further.

Galiano Community School

Indigenous Learning continues daily at Galiano Community School. The grade 2/3 and Intermediate class have been learning about the importance of, and proper ways to do, territorial acknowledgement. Grade 4-7s been doing them all year at our Whole School Meetings. Students and staff are always happy to welcome Quentin back, who has begun working again with small groups on our sitting drum. We are participating in the One World Project oral history project, as part of the larger One Island One Earth Galiano Project. The Intermediate class was fortunate to have two community members come in and teach how to interview and record others. Tomorrow, we have 5 community members visiting our school who will be interviewed by the students as part of this project. We are also working collaboratively as staff, gathering knowledge of where all our students' strengths and stretches are to help move them forward in the 4 areas outlined in the Enhancement Agreement.

Gulf Islands Secondary School

In terms of Belonging, Culture and community, GISS is hosting an ongoing district connection with all schools with the welcome poll carving opportunity. A whole school ceremony was held to bless the Cedar wood and set the intention of bringing together the hearts, hands and minds of all learners to create a symbol of welcoming. Indigenous students brought awareness to the MMIW red dress day movement by holding ceremony and a protest March through town with many of the student body in attendance. This was an opportunity to learn more about the racism of low expectations in our country and to hold up the dignity of Indigenous women and girls. Community came together to grieve and broaden awareness through advocacy and learn better ways for all genders to support each other.

The school growth plan is tailored to classroom success (academic and social/emotional) with a focus away from just letter grades. The career conversation at GISS is about all the different kinds of jobs and employment not just traditionally thought of paths.

Mayne Elementary/Jr. Secondary School

Appreciation for indigenous culture is embedded into daily practice at Mayne School. When an issue arises, a restorative practice, “circling up” is often used to rebuild community, connections and sense of belonging. In the classroom, math shapes using Coast Salish art as well as beading to practice patterns and Dene games for probability are being explored. The school hosted the community Honouring Lantern in the fall. In collaboration with the MI community library, students will observe National Indigenous Peoples Day which will include a visit to the local museum to learn the history of the indigenous people on the island as well as a reading circle. The intermediate homeroom will be on the land next week with the conservancy to learn about coastal biodiversity and First People’s traditional use of rock walls. New this year is a pen pal program with indigenous students from Destruction Bay, Yukon, who share their knowledge of culture and elders.

Pender Islands Elementary Secondary School

To celebrate our island sense of belonging, culture, and community, I would probably begin by bringing to light the upcoming “Hakaii Institute” programming, Darcie’s Dino Lab event, Monday's bike rodeo and our school volunteers which continue to afford extracurricular programming, especially team sports, such as wheelchair basketball, soccer, and hockey. Then there are the vibrant little starts in our school garden and the work which our small but mighty PAC group continues to raise awareness and funds for, particularly upcoming field trip support and guest speaker opportunities for parents and kids alike. Next, we should like to mention the efforts, where our



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teachers have gone over and above for, those extracurricular events. Ie Cheryl's "surf trip", or Claude's annual local Hope Bay salmon fry classes.

As per aboriginal ways of knowing and inquiry-based approaches, I know the school has continued to be inspired through carving with Quentin's instruction, through local history and island field trips, pieces of language and terms as well as studying local plants and places of significance.

Here's a link to our newsletter for the past month. It was focused on the enhancement agreement goals and shows pictures and written examples from each of the 4 areas.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gSCtX_VKGT354Ucjph_7bHXuHhhzC1dg/view

Phoenix Elementary School

Salt Spring Elementary School

Saltspring Island Middle School

Saturna Elementary School/SEEC

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Chair Boulter opened the floor for questions from the public.

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Committee Day: November 23, 2022
- (b) Regular Board Meeting: June 8, 2022

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved that the meeting be adjourned 4:06 p.m.

CARRIED 47/22

Date: June 8, 2022

Tisah Boulter
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Jesse Guy
Secretary Treasurer