



AGENDA

1. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- (a) Minutes of the Regular Meeting, Public Session held 2023 09 13 (attachment)

3. **IN-CAMERA SUMMARY**

- (a) Summary of In-Camera meeting held 2022 09 13 (attachment)

4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) GITA – Foundation Skills Assessment Motion Request (attachment)
(b) Deputy Minister Letter to Superintendents & FSA Pamphlet (attachments)

6. **DELEGATIONS**

- (a) Amy Dearden – Early Learning Environment Scan

7. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- (a) Superintendent Recruitment
(b) Galiano Library Society request to serve alcohol on School District Property (attachment)
Motion: that, in accordance with Policy 3100 Controlled and Intoxicating Substances, the Board approves the Galiano Library Society's request to serve alcohol during a volunteer appreciation event on November 26, 2023, at The Galiano Community Library.

- (c) School Calendar Consultation Schedule (attachments)
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.

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.

- (d) Communications Strategy – Board Chair's Message ([link](#))
(e) District Playing Fields (attachment)
(f) 2023 BC Active Transportation Grant for the Schooner Way Trail – Letter of Support (attachment)

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- (a) Enrolment – 1701
(b) Staffing



-
- (c) Capacity of Elementary Schools on Salt Spring Island (attachment)
 - (d) Programs and initiatives relating to Diversity, Anti-Racism, Equity, Inclusion, and Truth and Reconciliation

9. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

- (a) Monthly Financial Report

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) Education Committee – 2023 02 22 Summary (attachment)
- (b) Policy Committee – 2023 09 27 Summary (attachment)
- (c) Committee of the Whole – 2023 09 13 Summary (attachment)

11. TRUSTEE'S SCHOOL REPORTS

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Regular Board Meeting – November 8, 2023
- (b) Policy Committee Meeting – December 13, 2023

15. ADJOURNMENT



Present:	Tisha Boulter	Board Chair
	Chaya Katrensky	Vice-Chair
	Jeannine Georgeson	Trustee
	Gregory Lucas	Trustee
	Deborah Luporini	Trustee
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Nancy Macdonald	Trustee (via ZOOM)
	Scott Benwell	Superintendent of Schools/ Acting Secretary
		Treasurer
		Deputy Superintendent
		Director of Instruction, Learning Services
		Acting Director of Corporate Services
		Executive Assistant
Guests:	Ian Mitchell	GITA President
	Sarah Burden	KPMG (via ZOOM)
	Lenora Lee	KPMG (via ZOOM)
	Alex Bovell	KPMG (via ZOOM)
	John Martin	Financial Advisor (via ZOOM)
Regrets:	Nancy Macdonald	Trustee

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Boulter. Trustee Pingle acknowledged that this meeting is held on the territories of the Hul'qumi'num and SENĆOŦEN speaking peoples - huy tseep q'u.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Move 9 (a) to the top of the agenda,
Remove 9 (b) Monthly Financial Report,
Correct 10 (c) to read the year as 2023.

Moved and seconded that the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2023 09 13 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED 71/23

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Correction on p. 5/9 Saturna not Saturn

Moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera Session held 2023 06 14 be approved as amended.

CARRIED 72/23



3. IN-CAMERA SUMMARIES

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education adopts the Regular In-Camera Summary of 2023 06 14, and the Special Board Meeting, In-camera Summaries for 2023 06 19, 2023 06 30, 2023 08 03.

CARRIED 73/23

9. (a) Financial Statement Overview

The Board received a clean audit opinion from the external audit team. No issues of note were found during KPMG's audit of the Financial Statements this summer.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the 2022/2023 School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2023.

CARRIED 74/23

4. BUSINESS ARISING

5. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) MoECC – School Trustee Codes of Conduct Criteria

A letter from Minister Singh was sent out to all boards with a request to update trustee Codes of Conduct. This update will inform the Board's Policy renovation.

6. DELEGATIONS

7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

(a) Superintendent Recruitment

The Superintendent job posting is live. The call closes on October 10 at 3:00 p.m. and shortlisted candidates will be interviewed on November 1 and 2.

(b) Ombudsperson Report

The district received a report from the BC Ombudsperson's office for the period July 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. The BC Ombudsperson did not investigate the one complaint received.

(c) Access to Meetings

Trustees considered accessibility to meetings and discussed the benefits and challenges of holding hybrid meetings (in-public with ZOOM access). The Board will look to develop policy around access to meetings.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

(a) EPIC School Plans 2023/2024



School Plans for the 2023/2024 school year were shared with the Board. The plans articulate school goals, targets, and strategies for improving student learning.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education receive the 2023/2024 school plans as part of its Framework for Enhancing Student Learning.

CARRIED 75/23

(b) **Framework for Enhancing Student Learning**

In accordance with Ministry policy, the Board of Education must approve an annual report on enhancing student learning no later than September 30. This year marks the third rendition of this report.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the September 2023 Enhancing Student Learning Report for Gulf Islands School District.

CARRIED 76/23

(c) **Early Learning Environment Scan**

The Early Learning Environmental Scan was presented for the Board's consideration. Amy Dearden, Principal of Early Learning and Child Care will be invited to present at the next meeting of the Board and answer questions related to the Early Learning Environment Scan.

(d) **Staffing and Enrolment**

Most vacancies have been filled and current staffing levels align with projected enrolment. The new position of Racial Equity and Anti-Racism Coordinator has been filled. We are pleased to offer this position in a district our size.

(e) **Phoenix Elementary School Closure**

D'Arcy Deacon presented a report on the declining enrollment at Phoenix Elementary School. There are currently no students registered at the school resulting in a functional school closure. Trustee Pingle requested more data on the impact of reconfiguration and an alternative school closure. Specifically, the capacity of our elementary schools and their current enrolment.

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education begin a 60-day consultation process for the school closure of Phoenix Elementary School as per Policy 635 and in accordance with the School Act.

CARRIED 77/23

Notice of Motion to consider three readings and approval for the School Closure Bylaw for Phoenix Elementary School on November 13, 2023, at a special public meeting of the Board.



(f) **Framework Day**

Framework Day is Friday, September 22. The morning session of the site-based non-instructional day will be held via ZOOM. The day will focus on Indigenous Education, enhancing student achievement, and integrating Indigenous work views and perspectives into learning environments.

(g) **Accessibility Plan**

Boe Beardsmore presented information about the Accessible B.C. Act passed into law in June 2021 with the purpose of identifying, removing, and preventing barriers to accessibility. The school district is required to establish an Accessibility Working Group, create an Accessibility Plan, gather data, and identify barriers. More information is available on the Accessibility Plan page of the district website.

9. SECRETARY TREASURER’S REPORT

(c) **Draft 2024/2025 Five-Year Capital Plan – Minor Submission**

The five-year capital plan – minor submission, was presented to the Board. Projects include universal washrooms at Fernwood, Galiano, GISS, Mayne, and Salt Spring Elementary Schools, roof replacement at SSE and GISS, and other building upgrades around the district.

Legend: School Enhancement Program (SEP) / Carbon Neutral Capital Program (CNCP)

School Name	Program	Project Type	Year One 2024	Year Two 2025	Year Three 2026	Year Four 2027	Year Five 2028
Fernwood Elementary	SEP	Universal Washroom/Change Ro	-	300,000			
Fulford Community Elei	CNCP	Air Handling Unit and Heat Pump	-	297,760	-		
Galiano Community Sch	CNCP	Gym Air Handler replacement	-	-	391,950		
Galiano Community Sch	SEP	Universal Washroom/Change Ro	-	-	-		150,000
Gulf Islands Secondary	SEP	Roof Replacement - Phase 3	850,000	-	-		
Gulf Islands Secondary	SEP	Roof Replacement - Phase 4	-	850,000	-		
Gulf Islands Secondary	SEP	Lighting Upgrade T5/T8 to LED	-	-	1,300,000		
Mayne Island School	SEP	Replace Gym Furnaces	539,750	-	-		
Mayne Island School	SEP	Lighting Upgrade T8 to LED	-	-	300,000		
Mayne Island School	SEP	Universal Washroom/Change Ro	-	-	350,000		
Pender Island	CNCP	Heat Recovery Ventilator Upgrad	-	210,850	-		
Salt Spring Elementary	SEP	HVAC Upgrade Phase 2	1,043,167	-	-		
Salt Spring Elementary	SEP	Universal Washroom/Change Ro	550,000	-	-		
Salt Spring Elementary	SEP	SSE Accessibility Upgrade Combi	-	750,000	-		
Salt Spring Elementary	SEP	Roof Replacement	-	-	-	550,000	

Moved and seconded that the Board of Education approves the 2024/2025 Five-Year Capital Plan, Minor Submission.

CARRIED 78/23



(d) **Facilities Summer Work Projects**

Scott Benwell spoke to the many projects completed over the summer, and those still in progress, recognizing the facilities and maintenance department for their hard work.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) **Committee of the Whole**

The Board agreed to form a smaller subcommittee of two to three trustees to wordsmith draft revisions to the Strategic Plan, hoping to have the work finished and approved by December or early in the new year.

(b) **Policy Committee**

The Board received the Summary from the 2023 06 14 Policy meeting.

(c) **Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee**

The Board received a clean audit opinion from the external audit team. No issues of note were found during KPMG's audit of the Financial Statements this summer.

D'Arcy Deacon left the meeting at 3:49 p.m.

11. TRUSTEES' SCHOOL REPORTS

No school reports.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Moved and seconded that the Board meeting be extended by 15 minutes.

CARRIED 79/23

Trustee Pingle left the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

14. NEXT MEETING DATES

(a) Policy Committee Meeting – September 27, 2023

(b) Regular Board Meeting – October 11, 2023

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn at 4:07 p.m.

CARRIED 80/23



Date: _____

Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Acting Secretary Treasurer

DRAFT

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64 (GULF ISLANDS)

Reference Section 72 (3) of the *School Act*

Record of Proceedings of the Regular In-Camera meeting held
at the School Board Office

2023 09 13

Present:	Tisha Boulter	Board Chair
	Chaya Katrensky	Vice-Chair
	Jeannine Georgeson	Trustee
	Gregory Lucas	Trustee
	Deborah Luporini	Trustee
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Nancy Macdonald	Trustee (via ZOOM)
	Scott Benwell	Superintendent of Schools / Acting Secretary Treasurer
	D'Arcy Deacon	Deputy Superintendent
	Boe Beardsmore	Associate Superintendent
	Lori Deacon	Acting Director of Corporate Services
Anna Szul	Executive Assistant	
Guests:	Sarah Burden	KPMG (via ZOOM)
	Lenora Lee	KPMG (via ZOOM)
	Alex Bovell	KPMG (via ZOOM)
	John Martin	Financial Advisor (via ZOOM)

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

The agenda for the Regular Board meeting, In-Camera session held 2023 09 13 was adopted as presented.

The minutes of the Regular Board meeting, In-Camera session held 2023 06 14 were approved as presented.

The minutes of the Special Board meeting, In-Camera session held 2023 06 19 were approved as presented.

The minutes of the Special Board meeting, In-Camera session held 2023 06 30 were approved as presented.

The minutes of the Special Board meeting, In-Camera session held 2023 08 03 were approved as presented.

Items:

1. KPMG External 2022 Audit Financial Audit Report
2. Transportation
3. Personnel
4. Cross Boundary Requests
5. June 14, 2023, Meeting Follow-up

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.



Gulf Islands Teachers' Association, Local 64

Box 537 Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2W2. Tel/Fax (250) 537-4990
Email: lp64@bctf.ca

September 15, 2023

Dear Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands),

The Gulf Islands Teachers' Association (GITA) is requesting that the Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) put forward a motion supporting a parent's right to have their child opt out of the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA).

As discussed at the September 13th, 2023, Public Board Meeting, the results of these tests, accessed and used to rank schools by the Fraser Institute, are now commonly used by profit driven corporations, notably banks and real estate ventures (see attached article). Private corporations should not be able to exploit student data (see link below).

<https://www.rbcx.com/newsroom/press-releases/ojo-home-canada-launches-integration-with-fraser-institute/>

BC teachers believe that the government can protect the data collected through the administration of the FSA by using its legislative powers. Until that happens, parents should have the right to have their children excused from this data gathering process.

Example motion:

That the Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) direct the Superintendent to inform school-based principals to honour parent requests to withdraw their child from the FSA testing and to refrain from contacting them upon receipt of their withdrawal request form.

The Gulf Islands Teachers' Association trusts that the Board of Education, School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) will make an informed decision regarding the Foundation Skills Assessment and approve a motion at your next meeting permitting parents to withdraw their children from this method of data gathering.

Sincerely,

Ian Mitchell
Local Association President
Gulf Islands Teachers' Association

Honoured to work and live in the unceded traditional territory of the Hul'q'umi'num and SENCOTEN-speaking people.

TORONTO, Jan. 20, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) — [OJO Home Canada](#), the real estate tech company guiding the world to homeownership success, today announced an integration with the [Fraser Institute](#), a leading source of school ranking data in Canada. **Starting today, listings on OJO will include key data on schools in the area – including a detailed report on how the school is doing academically compared to other ranked schools. This integration will make OJO the only real estate search platform outfitted with Fraser Institute’s highly regarded school ranking data.**

While there are many factors when evaluating a property, finding a home within a good school district is often at the top of the list. In fact, 42% of U.S. buyers aged 31-40 said the quality of the school district was a factor that influenced their neighborhood choice, [according to a recent survey from the National Association of Realtors](#). Access to this data will help OJO consumers better understand this critical factor when evaluating homes, which may ultimately help them make better decisions for their family and future.

“OJO Labs is dedicated to bringing transparency to the home-buying journey, arming consumers with deep insights into property listings, including market statistics, nearby points of interest, environmental factors such as elevation – and now, school rankings,” said Nataalka Falcomer, President, OJO Home Canada. **“The Fraser Institute has been the go-to resource for school rankings in Canada for more than two decades, and we’re thrilled to bring their trusted data to our consumers.”**

END



September 22, 2023

Ref: 293104

Dear Superintendent:

This letter is to remind you that schools across British Columbia will be administering the annual Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) to all students in grades 4 and 7 from October 2 to November 10, 2023, and to share a parent/caregiver information guide on the FSA.

As a reminder, the FSA shows how students are doing in terms of developing literacy and numeracy skills over time and is the beginning of a series of assessments that continue through to graduation. FSA results serve as meaningful sources of information as they provide school and classroom level snapshots of student learning, allowing for early interventions that can enhance student success. FSA results are never intended to be used for ranking schools, teachers, or students, and the Ministry does not support the use of assessment data for these purposes.

All provincial assessments – including the FSA – are developed by educators practicing across B.C. and the Yukon who work with students from diverse backgrounds and have expertise in a broad range of learning areas, including Indigenous educators appointed by the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC). FSA is built with First Peoples Principles of Learning at its core, and the First Nations Leadership Council, FNESC and the Representative for Children and Youth use results to monitor outcomes for Indigenous students and students with support needs.

FSA results help the Ministry and school districts to recognize the impacts of COVID-19 on student learning and to ensure that the necessary supports are put in place for students if any gaps are identified. FSA results also provide valuable insight to parents and caregivers into how their children are progressing in their literacy and numeracy development.

The importance of large-scale assessments as part of the overall assessment program for all students is outlined in the *School Act*, section 168 (2) (d.1) and ministerial orders. The Student Learning Assessment Order requires boards and district staff to ensure the assessments are administered and information collected according to assessment protocols.

Following this requirement, participation in the FSA is expected for all students in grades 4 and 7 across the province. Accommodations to FSA administration will be available to schools or districts impacted by recent wildfires. Assessment accommodations for students are available if needed and as documented in a student's Individual Education Plan. School principals can only exempt students from writing the FSA in limited circumstances, including a family emergency, a lengthy illness, or other extenuating circumstances which would prevent a student from writing the assessment. Guidelines on student exemptions for the FSA can be found in the [FSA Administration Manual](#).

.../2

An information guide for parents and caregivers on the FSA is provided as an attachment. Please share this information with your school community to help foster an increased understanding of the purpose of the FSA and to support student participation in the FSA for your school district.

Thank you for your support of the FSA in your school district and for the work you are doing to ensure all students develop strong foundations in literacy and numeracy. We will continue working together to ensure all students in our education system are given every chance for success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C.A. Zacharuk".

Christina Zacharuk
Deputy Minister

Attachment 1) FSA Support for Parents and Caregivers



All about the Foundation Skills Assessment

What is the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)?

The FSA is a learning assessment for all grade 4 and 7 students. It focuses on the areas of **literacy** and **numeracy**.

FSA results are one way of measuring how the education system is doing in these key areas. It assesses how students think, communicate and reflect - not just the facts they know.

The FSA is not intended to be used to rank students, teachers, or schools. The FSA is a snapshot of student learning at a moment in time. For parents and caregivers, it tells you where your child is at in their literacy and numeracy development, as well as areas where they may need support. When all students participate, it also gives the Ministry of Education and Child Care a clear picture of how the education system is performing as a whole.

Why is the FSA important?

The Ministry of Education and Child Care sets the standards for what your child learns and, along with teachers, figures out ways to measure how well they are learning. The goal is for your child (and all students in BC) to get a great education that readies them for life after graduation and helps them become educated citizens.

One way the Ministry ensures the quality of student learning is through the FSA. The FSA helps us understand what learning looks like across the entire province. It lets us see how different groups of students are learning and find out where they might need extra help. It also helps us understand how well BC is doing over time.

The Ministry uses this information to make sure that your child's learning is "on track" and that they don't fall behind. This data also allows us to know how BC students are doing in relation to students in other provinces in Canada and the rest of the world. The FSA provides both the Ministry and parents and caregivers with the assurance that students possess the literacy and numeracy skills necessary for their future.

Literacy is your child's ability to understand language and communicate in a variety of ways.

Numeracy is your child's ability to apply important math skills, solve problems, and communicate solutions.

The FSA:

- Is **not** a high-stakes assessment
- Is **not** meant to be used for ranking students, teachers, or schools
- Does **not** impact student marks or report cards
- Provides valuable information about student learning
- Ensures all students are developing a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy
- Guides improvements to BC's education system



How will your child participate?

The FSA will be completed by your child as part of their regular classroom learning. Your child does not need to prepare for the assessment. The FSA has five parts that can be spread out over several days or weeks during the fall of your child's grade 4 and 7 school year. Each component of the assessment will never be longer than an hour, so it won't take too much time away from classroom learning. Here is what your child can expect:

Component	Description	Time
Paper-based literacy task	A collaboration activity and 3 written response questions	60 minutes
Online literacy task	30 questions	60 minutes
Paper-based numeracy task	3 written response questions and 1 self-reflection question	45 minutes
Online numeracy task	30 questions	60 minutes
Self-reflection	1 selected-response question and 1 written-response question	5 minutes

Some students may feel nervous about tests. Talking about the FSA at home can help your child understand the purpose of the assessment. It can also help your child feel more confident writing it.

You will receive your child's test booklet back after it has been marked. Marking is done by teachers using the provincial proficiency scale, the same scale used for report cards for kindergarten to Grade 9. For FSA, "Developing" and "Proficient" have been combined on the scale into a single category, so that you know if your child is "On Track" in their literacy and numeracy learning.

Emerging	On Track	Extending
means your child is beginning to understand the expected concepts	means your child mostly understands the expected concepts	means your child is able to apply their learning in new and different ways

Along with written comments from teachers and the proficiency scale on report cards, the FSA results can be another helpful source of information to see where your child is in their literacy and numeracy development and where they can go next in their learning.

How are the FSA results used?

The FSA results offer insights to parents, caregivers, teachers, schools, districts, and the Ministry. They provide valuable information to all levels of the education system that help improve student learning.

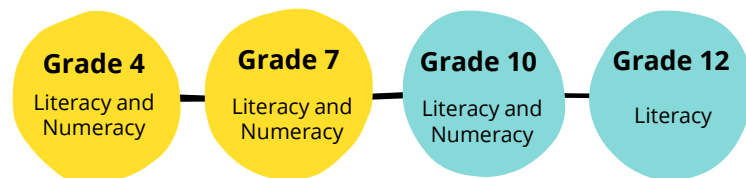
- For parents, caregivers, and teachers, these results can show how students are doing in literacy and numeracy.
- Teachers, schools, and districts can use the FSA results to help support classroom teaching. They can see where students are doing well and where they might need more help.
- Schools, districts, and the Ministry can use the FSA results to help make the education system better. The Ministry also relies on the FSA to uphold high learning standards to help all students develop their literacy and numeracy skills.

It's important to know that the FSA results aren't for ranking students, teachers, schools, or districts. Rankings don't help learning and don't make BC's education system better. The FSA is just one data point and doesn't reflect all the teaching and learning that happens in a school. That's why the Ministry doesn't make, share, or support any rankings.

When are literacy and numeracy assessed?

Foundation Skills Assessments

Graduation Assessments



Contact Us

 assessments@gov.bc.ca

 Curriculum.gov.bc.ca





October 2, 2023

Dear Trustees,

The Galiano Library Society would like to host a volunteer appreciation event at the Galiano Community Library (not the school library) on Sunday, November 26th in the afternoon. We would like to responsibly serve snacks, non alcoholic beverages and wine. Karen Harris, our board treasurer has her serving it right certificate and would be the applicant for the special event permit.

I have spoken to Adrian Pendergast and Kadek Okuda, who do not object to the event taking place.

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Event Details:
Galiano Community Library
November 26th
Afternoon - 2pm - 4pm
Approximately 50 attendees

Best,

Katherine Hazen
Vice-Chair, Galiano Community Library

SD 64 Consultation Schedule

Subject: School Calendar (2026/26 to 2026/27)

Date: October 5, 2023

Approved:

- October 11, 2023 Board Meeting (Pender School)
Notice of Motion
- October 16, 2023 – January 10, 2024
Board Meetings and District Website
Public Feedback on Three-Year Calendar (4-day school week)
- November 8, 2023 Board Meeting (Mayne School)
Draft Three-Year Calendar Received by Board
- November 13, 2023 District Website, Email
Draft Three-Year Calendar Circulated/Posted for Public Feedback
- January 5, 2024 Email Submissions/Webform
Final Deadline for Public Feedback on Draft Calendar
- January 10, 2024 Board Meeting (School Board Office)
Public Feedback Considered for Changes to Draft Calendar
- January 15, 2024 District Website, Email
Final Draft of Calendar Posted
- February 14, 2024 Board Meeting (School Board Office)
Notice of Motion lifted for consideration.
Final Draft of Calendars Approved
- March 31, 2024 Deadline for calendar submission to the Ministry

Notice of Motion

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.*

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.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Heidi Cowan <[REDACTED]>
Date: September 18, 2023 at 7:02:31 AM PDT
To: Rob Pingle <rpingle@sd64.org>
Subject: Fwd: GISS Playing Fields

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to you with great concern for the state of our highschool fields. I have been aware of the problem now for 5 years. Each year it seems to be getting worse due to the prolonged hot dry weather that will persist as our climate changes.

I have watched over the last number of years, the huge amount of money spent on having the fields aerated and seeded only to die again as soon as the hot weather arrives. I understand that the watering is an issue as we also have a water shortage and the cost of watering is not reasonable.

I am aware that there are discussions about what to do and this has been going on for years.

These fields, that all of us pay our hard earned tax dollars to maintain, are a safety hazard. My grade 11 fell on the field while playing during gym class the second day of school. She came home looking like she had fallen off a bike onto the pavement. She had multiple cuts on her body and I was grateful that she did not hit her head.

I have heard the various ideas about trying to fix the field yet I think some of them are short sighted. It does not matter how much soil we put on the fields if they can not be watered in the summer they will die. A turf field is our only solution. There are very healthy and environmentally acceptable ways to build turf fields. We are the largest community in our region without a turf field to my knowledge.

I don't profess to have all the answers and I also realize that money is a primary concern. However, the research shows that a healthy amount of outdoor physical activity is the best way to support our youth. We know it improves mental health and a sense of well being, that grades improve with access to physical fitness. As we are all aware it's a valuable part of the curriculum. How can we even meet the curriculum requirements and the goals to keep our children safe and healthy under the current conditions? The short answer is that we can not.

Please find a solution and soon that will bring our island highschool back to the quality that our children deserve and that our community of taxpayers expect.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,
Heidi Cowan

--
Heidi Cowan
[REDACTED]

[Date]

Pender Island Parks & Recreation Commission
Capital Region District
PO Box 86
Pender Island, BC V0N 2M0
Email: penderparks@crd.bc.ca

RE: 2023 BC Active Transportation Grant Application for the Schooner Way Trail

[Name of Business/Organization] enthusiastically supports the Capital Regional District application for funding to build the Schooner Way Trail on Pender Island.

Our Official Community Plan has long encouraged the creation of pedestrian and bicycle paths along public rights of way and this project is the first step in making this a reality. Once complete, this all ages, all abilities and all season multi-use trail will create Pender Island's first safe corridor for cyclists and pedestrians.

This route, identified as the number one priority by Pender Island residents, will connect our island's most densely populated subdivision at Magic Lake and the home of several popular parks (Danny Martin Ballpark, Magic Lake Park and the Disc Golf Park) with the Medicine Beach commercial complex and our local school and medical clinic. Future plans will connect this stretch of multi-use trail with the Driftwood Centre commercial complex and the ferry terminal at Otter Bay.

Pender Island's population increased by more than 20% between the 2016 and 2021 census periods. Many young families have recently moved to the island. We do not have public transportation and vehicle traffic along this route averages 235 vehicles per hour, including many large commercial vehicles. As a popular holiday destination, our population and traffic volumes increase dramatically during the summer months. [Modify or add other points of relevance to your business or your organization.]

The route follows an extremely busy and challenging section of roadway that is not currently safe for active transportation due to our narrow rural roads that feature many blind hills and corners, lack of shoulders, increased vehicle traffic and few areas safe for passing. At present, children do not ride their bikes or walk to school and few island residents or visitors feel safe cycling or walking on Pender Island.

[Describe how this trail will benefit your organization or your business.]

The environmental, placemaking, mental and physical health, recreation, economic and other benefits of multi-use trails are well known and we're excited for this project to go forward with the support of funding like the BC Active Transportation Grant.

Yours truly,

[Name]

[Title]

[Organization]

Staff Report to the Board of Education School District 64 Gulf Islands

Subject: Salt Spring Island Elementary School Capacity vs. Enrollment

Date: October 3, 2023

From: Scott Benwell, Superintendent

Salt Spring Island elementary school capacities and current enrolment. The Adjusted design capacity numbers were exported from MyCAPS.

Phoenix Elementary	25	0	25
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School	Adjusted Design Capacity	Current Enrolment	Difference
Fernwood Elementary	245	209	36
Fulford Community Elementary	145	133	12
Salt Spring Elementary	245	248	-3
	635	590	45



Draft Summary
Education Committee – SD 64 (Gulf Islands)

In attendance

Committee: Jeannine Georgeson, (committee chair), Nancy Macdonald, Deborah Luporini
Tisha Boulter (board chair, ex-officio), Scott Benwell (superintendent, ex-officio)

Trustees: Chaya Katrensky, Greg Lucas

Staff: Jesse Guy (secretary treasurer), D'Arcy Deacon (associate Superintendent), Boe
Beardsmore (director of instruction), Lori Deacon (executive assistant)

Guests: Angela Thomas (CUPE), Adria Kray (DPAC)

Regrets: Rob Pingle (trustee), Ian Mitchell (GITA)

Called to order 1:00 p.m.

1. **Adoption of Agenda**

Agenda adopted by consensus.

2. **Adoption of Summary**

February 8, 2023 meeting summary adopted by consensus.

3. **Business Arising**

4. **New Business**

a. *K-12 Anti-Racism Action Plan*

Boe shared an overview of the Ministry's Anti-racism action plan. The three-year plan is designed to support school districts in addressing racism and discrimination so that all students can learn in an environment where they feel welcomed, valued, and successful. The Ministry will be providing anti-racism training opportunities and supports for school districts. The plan identifies six areas of focus: community voice, removal of barriers, raising awareness, collaborative change, capacity building, and school support.

5. **Next Meeting:** April 26, 2023

6. **Adjournment:** 1:19 p.m.



Summary Policy Committee – SD 64 (Gulf Islands)

In attendance

Committee: Rob Pingle (committee chair), Deborah Luporini, Chaya Katrensky, Tisha Boulter (board chair, ex-officio), Scott Benwell (superintendent/acting secretary-treasurer, ex-officio)

Trustees: Greg Lucas, Jeannine Georgeson, Nancy Macdonald

Staff: Lori Deacon (acting director of corporate services), D'Arcy Deacon (deputy superintendent), Boe Beardsmore (associate superintendent), Anna Szul (executive assistant)

Guests: Kate Martinez (DPAC), Ian Mitchell (GITA), Anne Cooper (AZ Cooper Consulting, via ZOOM)

Regrets: Angela Thomas (CUPE)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Committee Chair Pingle. Chair Pingle acknowledged that this meeting is held on the territories of the HULCUMINUM and SCENTOSEN-speaking peoples – huy tseep q'u.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of agenda by consensus.

2. Approval of Summary

Adoption of June 14, 2023, Summary by consensus.

3. Business Arising

a) *Bylaw #2 Board Procedures*

Continued review of draft amendments.

10:30 a.m. Katherine Martinez leaves the meeting and Jennifer Lannan Emekoba joins as the DPAC representative.

4. New Business

a) *Accessible Board Meetings*

Discussion about the various factors involved with implementing a policy regarding accessible meetings. Jennifer Lannan Emekoba, DPAC representative, speaks to the desire for hybrid meetings.

Action: as Anne Cooper works through the policy review process, she will keep the Accessibility Act in mind and make recommendations that align with the act.

Meeting recessed at 11:22 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 11:30 a.m.



b) Policy Renovation, Next Steps – Anne Cooper

Discussion about the next policies in cue for revision and how to prioritize them.

Action: The policy review will continue according to the plan that Anne Cooper has presented.

5. Other Business

6. Next Meeting: November 8, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

7. Adjournment: 12:14 p.m.



Summary Committee of the Whole (COW) – SD 64 (Gulf Islands)

In attendance

Committee: Tisha Boulter (chair), Chaya Katrensky (vice chair), Jeannine Georgeson (trustee), Greg Lucas (trustee), Deborah Luporini (trustee), Rob Pingle (trustee)

Staff: Scott Benwell (superintendent/acting secretary-treasurer), D’Arcy Deacon (deputy superintendent), Boe Beardsmore (associate superintendent), Lori Deacon (acting director of corporate services), Anna Szul (executive assistant)

Guests: Kate Martinez (DPAC)

Regrets: Angela Thomas (CUPE), Ian Mitchell (GITA)

Called to order: 11:17 am

1. Adoption of Agenda

Adopted by consensus as presented.

2. Approval of Summary

Summary of May 15, 2023, adopted by consensus.

3. Business Arising

a. Strategic Plan Summary and Reminder

Chair Boulter recommends a subcommittee of 2-3 trustees get together to wordsmith the remaining sections of the strategic plan. Vice Chair Katrensky and Trustee Luporini volunteer and will reach out to Trustee Macdonald for inclusion.

Action: 2-3 members of the board will form a subcommittee to work on the remainder of the strategic plan and prepare a draft for either the committee or the board’s consideration depending on timing.

b. Trustee Questions

The Board discusses the value of trustee questions, meeting with principals on a regular basis, and delegations at outer island schools.

Chair Boulter summarizes the discussion in three points: (1) When visiting outer island schools for board meetings, so as not to have different expectations than for Salt Spring Island school principals, school principals will no longer be asked to present their school plans at public board meetings. (2) Trustees will continue to give monthly reports and are not required to report on their meetings with the school principal. (3) Trustees will continue to meet with school administrators monthly.



D'Arcy Deacon reminds Outer Island trustees to include Adrian Pendergast, District Principal of Outer Islands, in meetings with their school administrators.

4. **New Business**
5. **Other Business**
6. **Next Meeting:** February 14, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.
7. **Adjournment:** 11:57 a.m.