

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING, PUBLIC SESSION
SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (GULF ISLANDS)
HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2009 AT GALIANO COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

Present:	May McKenzie	Chairperson
	Mike Krayenhoff	Vice Chairperson
	Bonnie MacGillivray	Trustee
	Pete Williams	Trustee
	Susanne Middleditch	Trustee
	Charles Hingston	Trustee
	Rob Pingle	Trustee
	Jeff Hopkins	Superintendent of Schools
	Rod Scotvold	Secretary Treasurer
	Linda Underwood	Director of Human Resources
	Sheila Miller	Director of Instruction
	John Nicolson	GITA President
	Peter Price	CUPE Representative

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by M. Krayenhoff

Seconded by B. MacGillivray

That the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2009 03 11, be adopted as amended.

CARRIED 31/09

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by S. Middleditch

Seconded by R. Pingle

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, Public Session held 2009 02 11, be approved as amended.

CARRIED 32/09

Moved by P. Williams

Seconded by R. Pingle

That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting, Public Session held 2009 02 25, be approved as presented.

CARRIED 33/09

3. BUSINESS ARISING

4. DELEGATIONS

5. TRUSTEE'S SCHOOL REPORTS

Tabled to allow trustees time to attend John Abbott's presentation to Galiano community members.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

(a) Local School Calendar

The Ministry recently changed the minimum number of instructional days, therefore one more instructional day was added to meet this requirement. The suggestion was made to change Friday, December 4, 2009 to Friday, June 25, 2010 as this is an exam day and the water taxis will be running to accommodate students. A revised calendar will be sent out to the schools and uploaded on the web. Chair McKenzie reminded everyone that the Board will make a decision on whether or not to adopt the

local school calendar for 2009/2010 at a Special Board meeting held on April 22, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the School Board Office.

(b) Pro Growth/Parents Day

Ms McKenzie thanked all who were involved in the planning and organization of the February 27 District Pro D day with special guest presenter Gabor Maté. She said it was an exceptional day and enjoyed by all.

(c) Climate Action Charter

On March 9, 2009 a letter was received from Minister Shirley Bond with the Climate Action Charter Agreement attached. This government 'action plan' centres on the *Greenhouse Gas Reductions Targets Act (GGRTA, 2007)*. Boards of Education that sign the Charter Agreement will be reimbursed for the full cost of their annual carbon taxes. A signed copy must be returned to the Ministry by March 31, 2009. As well as the Charter Agreement, two other documents must also be submitted by March 31 – the Carbon Tax Calculation Form which shows the amount of carbon tax paid by the Board that will be reimbursed, and the Draft Carbon Neutral Action Report which describes the district's actions "undertaken to reduce emissions as well as plans for further reductions". The district has already taken action and developed many strategies to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Moved by B. MacGillivray

Seconded by S. Middleditch

That the Board of Education agrees to enter into the British Columbia Climate Action Charter with the Province of British Columbia.

CARRIED 34/09

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Program Delivery Task Force

Mr. Hopkins gave a brief summary of the Program Delivery Task Force meeting held February 17, 2009. Highlights included:

- Lots of numeracy workshops – particularly at Middle Years level
- New report card template (using it at SSE). Pilot has gone really well. Was devised by the report card committee, then given to Kevin Vine to develop a template. Will use at elementary level, then Middle Years and perhaps high school with some modification. We hope to market and sell the template.
- Discussion of terms of reference for the task force. These have changed a bit since inception. May change structure of meeting.

(b) Educational Field Trip to Quebec

SIMS teacher, Louise Doucet, is requesting Board approval for a tentative socio-cultural exchange trip to Quebec for approximately 30 Grade 8 students from April 20 to 28, 2009. She is still waiting for approval by Friendship and Sports Canada before they make final arrangements.

Moved by C. Hingston

Seconded by M. Krayenhoff

That the Board of Education approves educational field trip #75 for 30 SIMS students to travel to Quebec April 20 to 28, 2009 for socio-cultural experiences.

CARRIED 35/09

(c) Educational Field Trip to Edmonton

SIMS teacher, Bruce Creswick, is requesting Board approval for a band trip to Edmonton May 10 to 15, 2009 for 55 Grade 6-8 students. They will be performing at the West Edmonton Mall and have possible performances in Blue River and Hinton or Edson.

Moved by P. Williams

Seconded by B. MacGillivray

That the Board of Education approves educational field trip #79 for 55 SIMS students to travel to Edmonton, Alberta May 10 to 15, 2009 for music performances.

CARRIED 36/09

(d) Educational Field Trip to Albert Head, Police Boot Camp

Request for two Grade 12 GISS students to attend Police Boot Camp at Albert Head, Canada Forces Base April 11 to 18, 2009. Students learn about multiple situations that police officers may find themselves in and how to handle those situations. Includes first aid and physical fitness training.

Moved by S. Middleditch

Seconded by P. Williams

That the Board of Education approves educational field trip #84 for two Grade 12 GISS students to attend Police Boot Camp at Albert Head, Canada Forces Base April 11 to 18, 2009.

CARRIED 37/09

(e) District Planning Day/ Board Retreat

The District Planning Day is scheduled for May 8 at GISS and the Board Retreat for June 2 at the Harbour House Hotel. The Program Delivery Task Force will meet again in April to discuss the theme of both events and the committee would like to hear input from trustees.

(f) Education Week Supplement

The Education Week Supplement was included in the March 4 edition of the Driftwood and Superintendent Hopkins asked that more copies be made available to the Outer Islands schools. This year's supplement included more information about what our schools and students are doing educationally. Thanks to CUPE and GITA for their positive and supportive advertisements and to John Cameron for all the photos. Mr. Hopkins has received many positive comments on the design and information contained in the supplement.

(g) Development of Environmental Stewardship Policy

GISS students and staff have formed the *Environmental Action Group Encouraging Responsibility* (EAGER) group which is looking at ways to reduce consumption and waste. The group "plans to raise awareness about plastic packaging, and are working towards introducing more plants into classrooms to help improve air quality". They are representing GISS and the Gulf Islands in the BC Green Games and have submitted project(s) for consideration. The deadline for submission was the end of February 2009; voting on the projects takes place until March 15, 2009 at which time winners will be chosen.

Mr. Hopkins would like the district to formalize its commitment to the environment and has invited representatives from the EAGER group to a Policy Committee meeting on April 22, 2009 to be involved in developing a policy and procedure for the district. Chair McKenzie suggested that the Board invite Minister Shirley Bond to a policy committee meeting where the students are involved.

(h) Summer Learning Funding

Letter received from Deputy Minister, James Gorman, regarding Summer Learning Funding for 2009. An interim policy was developed for funding summer learning during the summer of 2008. The Minister has updated the policy and funding for summer learning in 2009 will be provided for courses that lead to graduation. There is a set of guidelines for courses for Grades 1-7; Grades 8-9; Grades 10-12 (partial courses) and Grades 10-12 (four credit courses). "Adults, school-aged graduates and International students are not eligible for summer learning funding". As a district, we want to support students who wish to work on courses during the summer. A question was raised whether or not other district summer events, such as GICEL and programs offered at the Galiano Activity Centre would fall into this funding category. Mr. Hopkins will present this information for summer courses to the PVP group, set up a schedule, and then follow up with advertising.

9. CORPORATE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Monthly Financial Report

The monthly expenditure report indicates that with 66.67% of the year completed, 63.18% of the budget has been expended. We are 3.49% below budget at this time. For this financial report, Mr. Scotvold has incorporated the amended annual budget into the information. The amount of employee sick time for January and February of 2009 has increased over the same time period in 2008. For February the cost was up from \$40,000 to \$70,000.

Regular Board Meeting, Public Session

(b) Financial Projects 09/10

Mr. Scotvold presented preliminary drafts of the financial projections for 2009/2010; the continuation of the four-day week compared to a return to the five-day week. There will be a decrease in funding resulting from a projected decrease of 36.75 fte regular students for the 2009/2010 school year. There will also be a decrease in “out of block” Special Project Funding which may involve pay equity and community link funding. An increase in funding for Unique Geographic Factors should offset the projected loss in Special Project Funding. The resulting Operational Implications includes reduction of staff in both scenarios plus a serious impact on educational programs if we return to the five-day week; reductions in staffing and program cuts would be necessary to deal with the \$611,600 financial shortfall.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. OTHER BUSINESS

12. QUESTION PERIOD

13. NEXT MEETING DATES

- (a) Committee Day – No Committee Day in March as it falls during Spring Break
- (b) Regular Board Meeting – April 08, 2009 at Mayne Island School

14. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by C. Hingston
Seconded by B. MacGillivray
That the meeting be adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

CARRIED 38/09

Date: April 8, 2009

May McKenzie
Chairperson

Certified Correct:

Rod Scotvold
Secretary Treasurer

LOCAL SCHOOL CALENDAR CONSULTATION FOR 2009/2010

No discussion. (0 community members present).