

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR meeting of  
Wednesday, April 14, 2021  
Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers**

**CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL**

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in regular session on the 14th day of April 2021, in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers. Board President Kim Hodne called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The following members were present to establish a quorum and due notice had been published: Board President Kim Hodne; Vice President Sonya Skan; Board Members Diane Gubatayao; Jordan Tabb; and Nicole Anderson. Clerk-Treasurer Bridget Mattson and Board Member Paul Robbins Jr. were absent and excused. Student member Henry Clark was also present.

Administrative staff present via videoconference included: Superintendent Beth Lougee; Business Manager Katie Parrott; and Board Clerk Kerry Watson.

The traditional lands acknowledgement was read by Board President Kim Hodne.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion to approve the agenda of the April 14, 2021 regular meeting.**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: ANDERSON

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) – AYE  
ANDERSON, SKAN, TABB, GUBATAYAO, HODNE - AYES  
MOTION PASSED**

**PUBLIC RECOGNITION**

The Academic Decathlon team was recognized for earning a chance to compete at nationals. Student Member Henry Clark said the team had taken its first tests a week ago and more were coming up.

Board Member Diane Gubatayao congratulated Henry for receiving a presidential scholarship to Pacific Lutheran University.

Ms. Gubatayao also described care kits which were provided to all seventh through twelfth-graders as a collaborative community effort.

**CITIZEN REMARKS**

Lara Powers, Beth Brandt-Erichsen, and Caitlin Dixon, school librarians, spoke about the district's school libraries in recognition of National School Library Month. One of the points shared was that four out of the seven district school libraries were closed this year as part of COVID-mitigation efforts and a need for the librarians to be re-assigned as classroom teachers.

Lori Ortiz, Fast Track coordinator, offered to be a part of any questions or solutions regarding the home school program.

Lisa Pearson spoke as a parent in appreciation of the effort of school librarians.

## **INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Finance Committee - Ms. Gubatayao reported that the Finance Committee had reviewed the proposed budget in detail. The funding request of the Borough will be essentially flat, she stated.

Assembly/School Board Liaison Committee - Mr. Hodne reported that the budget was also the topic for the liaison committee, with reports given by both the district's Business Manager and the Borough Finance Director.

**CLAIMS of April 2, 2021** - There were no questions or comments.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Beth Lougee said she'd been working on the budget over the past two weeks with the Business Manager and principals.

Student Member's Report: Student Board Member Henry Clark reported briefly on plans for graduation and prom in this COVID-affected year.

### Ketchikan High School Annual Report

Ketchikan High School principal Jason House provided a comprehensive annual school report, with assistance from Linnaea Troina and Cole Maxwell. The school with 539 students has had good attendance for a year with challenges, he commented; adding he was pleased with the number of days that the school was open at 100 percent. Only 34 school days had to be conducted at the 50 percent level and there were only 5 days in which students were completely remote/off site, he said. He credited the work of staff, the Smart Start team and the Board for developing the plan that allowed this to happen. Mr. House described how the school had adapted to the COVID-affected year, including instituting morning health screenings of students, which he noted built connections; widespread adoption of the CANVAS online learning system; and changing to a block schedule. He spoke about offerings at Kayhi and community partnerships, and reported on assessments and School Climate and Connectedness results from 2020. The SCCS data revealed some areas of concern including how students felt about school climate, the level of cultural connectedness reported by families, and the amount of at-risk behavior reported by students. Principal House listed some ideas for addressing these concerns.

Mr. Maxwell, Assistant Principal and Activities Director, reported on how student activities had been conducted this year, often virtually, under strict mitigation plans but with the goal of being able to compete at whatever level and manner that was possible. Antigen testing will be used for spring sports participants, he said, and noted that spring sports didn't occur last year.

Assistant Principal Linnaea Troina spoke about course offerings at Kayhi, including such opportunities as dual credit classes, as well as describing the various interest groups for students. A course on indigenous history and a Native American literature class were new offerings this year, she noted. Principal House concluded the school report by describing upcoming senior activities, and noting that mitigation plans for various risk levels had been submitted to the EOC for prom and graduation. Graduation will be on May 30. There were questions from the Board and discussion following the report.

### Revilla Junior/Senior High Annual Report

In his school report, Kurt Lindemann, principal of Revilla Junior/Senior High School, also described the adaptations that were made in this unusual year. Revilla students, currently totaling 108, were spaced out as much as possible, with the high school and middle schools kept separated with no intermingling of those grades and no common breaks. Mr. Lindemann highlighted the emphasis that Revilla places on consistency with students, and building resiliency. The staff is consistently looking for ways to build students up and make more connections with them, he said. There were some questions and comments from the Board.

### **Break**

A five-minute break was taken at the conclusion of the school reports, from 8:08 to 8:13 p.m. before the meeting continued.

### **PUBLIC HEARING - BUDGET -**

#### **Motion to approve the FY'22 Draft Operating Budget in the amount of \$41,437,219 in first reading.**

Moved by: TABB; Second by: GUBATAYAO

#### **Public Hearing**

There were no public comments for the hearing.

#### **Board Discussion**

Business Manager Katie Parrott summarized the development of the proposed budget to this point, noting this was an atypical year. Prioritizing core programming; special education programming; contributing to the health insurance program to address its deficit; and leveraging of COVID relief funds were goals, said Ms. Parrott. She noted that the budget draft originally reviewed by the finance committee was a \$1.7 million increase from the current year's approved budget. However, after considering projected revenue, that initial proposed budget was reduced and some of the requests put forward by administrators were pulled out.

Business Manager Parrott spoke about the underlying assumptions for the fiscal year '22 budget, which included: recognizing that paraprofessionals normally transitioning to seasonal work by this time of year would continue on the payroll and start up again in the fall; the number of special education students would not decrease and the level of service would be maintained; staff attrition provided some savings; and the pending allocation of COVID-related funds was expected to be larger than the previously received funds.

Ms. Parrott stressed that the operating fund budget is down to what is a very bare budget in terms of "stuff." With about 88 percent of the budget dedicated to personnel, not much remains that can be cut except for staff, she said.

Board members asked questions and discussed aspects of the budget presentation, including regarding a world language position, Fast Track staffing, and a request for more specifics on administrators' budget requests. Superintendent Lougee spoke about the continual monitoring of various dynamics such as resignations, teacher transfer requests, and student numbers, and the domino effect each can have on the district and budget planning.

Mr. Hodne said he couldn't support the presented budget, stating it doesn't cover all that is necessary for students. He said he wanted to see a budget that reflects what is truly needed for the district. Business Manager Parrott responded that this was the budget that was presented to the finance committee the previous Friday. There was some conversation about the finance committee meeting.

Mr. Hodne stated that the district was holding back in order to present a flat funded budget to the Borough. He said the district has been cutting its budget for years to meet a predetermined dollar value.

### **\*\*PUBLIC HEARING - POLICY\*\***

#### **Motion to approve revisions to the Board Policy 1020 - Youth Services in second reading.**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: TABB

#### **Public Hearing/Board Discussion**

No public spoke during the public hearing and there was no Board discussion.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) – AYE  
GUBATAYAO, SKAN, ANDERSON TABB, HODNE - AYES  
MOTION PASSED**

**Motion to approve revisions to the Board Policy 1100 - Communication with the Public in first reading.**

Moved by: TABB; Second by: GUBATAYAO

Public Hearing/Board Discussion

No public spoke during the public hearing and there was no Board discussion.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) – AYE  
TABB, ANDERSON, GUBATAYAO, SKAN, HODNE - AYES  
MOTION PASSED**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Motion to approve the Consent Calendar of April 12, 2021, consisting of the following:**

- a. *Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 24, 2021.*
- b. *Motion to approve the special meeting minutes of March 30, 2021.*
- c. *Motion to approve the special meeting minutes of April 7, 2021.*
- d. *Motion to approve offering of a contract to Hilary Sauder as occupational therapist.*
- ~~e. *Motion to approve offering of non-tenured certified contracts for the 2021-2022 school year.*~~
- f. *Motion to approve travel of Schoenbar staff to the Model School Conference in Nashville in June 2021.*

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: ANDERSON

Ms. Gubatayao requested the removal of the non-tenured certified contracts from the Consent Calendar.

**ROLL CALL (remaining Consent Calendar)**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) – AYE  
ANDERSON, TABB, GUBATAYAO, SKAN, HODNE – AYES  
MOTION PASSED**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Motion to approve the non-tenured certified contracts for the 2021-2022 school year.**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: TABB

**Discussion**

Ms. Gubatayao stated it would benefit the Board to talk about these contracts, as these employees achieve tenure when entering their fourth year with the district. She asked Superintendent Lougee to speak about the evaluation process of these teachers. Superintendent Lougee provided an explanation of the process.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) – AYE  
TABB, GUBATAYAO, ANDERSON, SKAN, HODNE - ALL AYES  
MOTION PASSED**

**NEW BUSINESS** - There was none.

**DISCUSSION**

AASB Board of Directors Vacancies - Ms. Gubatayao explained she was interested in filling a vacancy on the Board of Directors. There was no objection to her nomination.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Ms. Gubatayao said she was excited to referee girls' soccer on the weekend.

Student Member Henry Clark stated that in contrast to his involvement in school activities last year, this year he had felt helpless at times. However, being on the Board made him feel he was of use and could be helpful, he said.

Mr. Hodne thanked the finance committee, other Board members, Business Manager and Superintendent, for their work on the budget.

**ADVANCE PLANNING**

Business Manager Parrott informed the Board that a district budget needed to be provided to the Borough by April 27 to meet the packet deadline for the Assembly's May 3 meeting. She suggested a budget work session the following week. April 22 was tentatively agreed upon.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

*Minutes approved as distributed at the April 28, 2021 regular meeting of the Board of Education.*

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BOARD PRESIDENT  
Kim Hodne