

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR meeting of
Wednesday, June 23, 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 23rd day of June 2021, in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers. Presiding Board Vice President Diane Gubatayao 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 Vice President Diane Gubatayao; Clerk-Treasurer Bridget Mattson; and Board Members Jordan Tabb; Paul Robbins Jr.; and Douglas Gregg. Board President Kim Hodne and Board Member Nicole Anderson were absent and excused.

Administrative staff present included Interim Superintendent Melissa Johnson; Business Manager Katie Parrott; and Board Clerk Kerry Watson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda for the regular meeting of June 23, 2021.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: ROBBINS JR.

ROLL CALL

TABB, GUBATAYAO, MATTSON, ROBBINS JR., GREGG - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Presiding Officer Diane Gubatayao commented appreciatively on the district's summer school lunch program.

CITIZEN REMARKS

There were none.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Paul Robbins Jr. reported that the Policy Committee would be meeting to develop a policy in partnership with Women in Safe Homes.

Board Clerk Treasurer Bridget Mattson reported for the public's benefit on the superintendent search process. The applications being solicited in the nationwide search closed on June 14. The Board would meet with the Association of Alaska School Boards in the following week to review the applications and determine next steps, she said. When the Board is ready to bring final candidates to town for interviews, the public will be part of the process to give input, she added.

CLAIMS FOR INFORMATION:

Ms. Gubatayao asked if the continued payments to Alaska Pest Management were still for COVID mitigation efforts. Business Manager Katie Parrott responded that the company provides some services annually to the district such as for insect control. She also said that if COVID sanitizing and disinfecting services are continued for another year, a new service agreement would be brought to the Board.

Ms. Gubatayao also asked about payments labeled "Protech" listed for activity expenses at Ketchikan High School. Interim Superintendent Melissa Johnson explained the expenditures were for athletic officials, and also personnel doing the score books and clocks at games.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Interim Superintendent Melissa Johnson reported on the newly created Smart Start team being led by administrator Linnaea Troina. The 13-member group includes representatives from each district school, a School Board member, the school nurse, and parents. Surveys of teachers and parents will occur in July to inform planning for next school year. Ms. Johnson noted that public health had informed the team that currently only 24% of 12 to 19-year-olds are fully vaccinated. The vaccination rate of eligible students may factor into protocols for next year, she indicated. All schools have indicated wanting to start school on a "rolling start" with half the student population beginning one day, and the others coming the next day. The plan for how school will operate will be provided to parents and the community about 10 days before school starts, she said. Those plans will be reviewed every 8 weeks or so to account for any needed adjustments, said the interim superintendent. There were a few follow up questions and comments from Board members.

In addition, a data request by Ketchikan Indian Community, as mentioned in the recent Government to Government consultation, was referenced.

****PUBLIC HEARING - POLICY**** - Procedure (1) Citizens may give public comment regarding the subject of the hearing; (2) the public hearing is closed; (3) opportunity for Board discussion and decision.

Motion to approve revisions to Board Policy 1312 - Public Comments Concerning the Schools in second reading.

Moved by: ROBBINS JR.; Second by: MATTSON

Public hearing/Board discussion

There was no public comment, nor was there Board discussion.

ROLL CALL

TABB, ROBBINS JR., MATTSON, GREGG, GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the revisions to Board Policy 1312.1 - Public Complaints Concerning School Personnel in second reading.

Moved by: ROBBINS JR.; Second by: MATTSON

Public hearing/Board discussion

There was no public comment, nor was there Board discussion.

ROLL CALL

ROBBINS JR., GREGG, TABB, MATTSON, GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the revisions to Board Policy 1312.3 - Public Complaints Concerning Discrimination in second reading.

Moved by: ROBBINS JR.; Second by: MATTSON

Public hearing

There was no public comment.

Board Discussion

Ms. Gubatayao said the district's nondiscrimination policies will be cross-referenced in this policy.

ROLL CALL

GREGG, MATTSON, ROBBINS JR., TABB, GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar of June 23, 2021 (consisting of the following):

- a. Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 26, 2021.
- b. Motion to approve the special meeting minutes of June 3, 2021.
- c. Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 9, 2021.
- d. Motion to approve the offer of a teaching contract to Morgan Drake for the 2021-2022 school year.
- e. Motion to approve the offer of a teaching contract to Ronor Escabarte for the 2021-2022 school year.
- f. Motion to approve the offer of a teaching contract to Sarah Orozco for the 2021-2022 school year.
- g. Motion to approve the offer of a teaching contract to Edelweiss Serlin for the 2021-2022 school year.
- h. Motion to approve the offer of a teaching contract to Leigh Woodward for the 2021-2022 school year.
- i. Motion to approve a contract with Lindsey Hargis for speech and language pathology services.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: TABB

ROLL CALL

MATTSON, GREGG, TABB, ROBBINS JR., GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to approve the MOA with Ketchikan Gateway Borough regarding the Funding and Management of the Point Higgins Paving Project as presented.

Moved by: ROBBINS JR; Second by: TABB

Discussion

Mr. Robbins Jr. asked if all the areas around Point Higgins depicted on a map provided to the Board were being covered in the project, and not just that of a few potholes. Maintenance Director Al Jacobson confirmed that the paving project was comprehensive and provided some more information on its scope.

Business Manager Katie Parrott responded to a question regarding how this type of project is incorporated into the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process.

ROLL CALL

TABB, GREGG, MATTSON, ROBBINS JR., GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the purchase of science tables from Flinn Scientific for Schoenbar Middle School in the amount not to exceed \$35,000.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: TABB

Discussion

For the benefit of the public, Mr. Robbins Jr. explained that the tables are epoxy, and are designed to withstand heat and to be used for such projects as dissections. They should be long-term and sturdy investments, he said. Board Member Mattson noted that \$5,000 of the purchase cost would be paid out of a Quality Schools grant.

ROLL CALL

MATTSON, TABB, GREGG, ROBBINS JR., GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve a lease agreement with South Tongass Alliance Church.

Moved by: ROBBINS JR.; Second by: TABB

Discussion

Interim Superintendent Johnson said this lease is for the 2021-2022 school year only, and will allow for extra space for incoming kindergarten and sixth-grade students at Fawn Mountain Elementary School. When the sixth-graders move on at the end of the year, Fawn Mountain will be able to accommodate the preschool again, she said.

Board Member Gubatayao said that although this one-time lease agreement will reduce the class size at Fawn Mountain, the district may not be able to sustain lower class sizes into the future.

Mr. Robbins Jr., asked whether the lease amount for nine months was competitive with other rentals in Ketchikan. Interim Superintendent Johnson said one reason to utilize the church was its proximity to the school. Business Manager Parrott responded that the lease amount was fair and competitive compared to commercial rates in Ketchikan. She added that the church was a new facility and she felt the lease was economically beneficial to the district.

ROLL CALL

MATTSON, ROBBINS JR., GREGG, TABB, GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the Professional staff salary schedule for FY 22-24 as presented.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: ROBBINS JR.

Discussion

Business Manager Parrott explained that the staff represented on this salary schedule are non-union, classified, at will employees of the district who either have professional training or expertise in an area of districtwide function. She also briefly explained the rationale for the increase to salaries.

ROLL CALL

TABB, ROBBINS JR., MATTSON, GREGG, GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to ratify the 2021-2023 Negotiated Labor Contract between the KGBSD and KLO.

Moved by: ROBBINS JR; Second by: MATTSON

Discussion

Ms. Parrott said that this was a two-year agreement, instead of the usual three-year contract term. In part, this resulted from the difficult last year for the administrators, she said. There is no salary increase in year 1 and a 1.5 percent increase in year 2, she said. Ms. Parrott explained the main changes in the agreement, which included: modest increases in the cell phone allowance and in the vehicle allowance; a \$50 per day increase in personal leave buy out; and adding language regarding vacancies and transfers, and the ability of the lead principal to evaluate the assistant principal.

Mr. Robbins Jr., who represented the Board in the negotiations, commented positively on the sessions. He said he supports the contract and that it is fair to both sides.

Ms. Gubatayao said she is glad the grievance process had been clarified in the contract and she supports the language regarding transfers.

Board Member Douglas Gregg commended both sides for coming to an agreement.

ROLL CALL

TABB, GREGG, MATTSON, ROBBINS JR., GUBATAYAO - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

DISCUSSION

ESSA training; and next government to government consultation with Ketchikan Indian Community:
Discussion on the government to government consultation, a potential training on the Every Student Succeeds Act, and scheduling of the next quarterly meeting.

Recommendations for AASB Strategic Plan: *Association of Alaska School Boards is inviting resolutions. Resolutions will be voted on at its annual meeting in November.*

BOARD COMMENTS

Board Member Gregg stated he was having a great time working with the Board and that progress was being made on the superintendent search.

Board Member Tabb commented on the opportunity to get vaccinated in relation to the upcoming school year and how it might affect the level of mitigations.

Ms. Mattson briefly spoke about providing staff time to rest and relax this summer, and encouraged participation in surveys regarding school when they are released.

Mr. Robbins praised Ms. Parrott for her negotiation skills.

Ms. Gubatayao said it was exciting to see some young people returning to Ketchikan to be educators. She also urged staff and students to respond to the surveys regarding school operation.

ADVANCE PLANNING

After discussion, the Board agreed to change the superintendent search work session with AASB to July 1.

Ms. Gubatayao said the City Council had asked her to speak regarding Dr. Horton's efforts with the district's Smart Start plan.

Mr. Robbins noted that an executive session listed on the agenda for KLO was not necessary as the contract had been ratified by the Board,

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Minutes approved as distributed at the July 14, 2021 regular meeting of the Board of Education.

BOARD PRESIDENT
Kim Hodne