

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular meeting of  
Wednesday, March 25, 2020  
Remotely held via videoconferencing platform\***

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

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in regular session on the 25th day of March, 2020, with Board Members participating remotely via videoconferencing. (\*Due to COVID-19 pandemic facility closures.) Board President Bridget Mattson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The following members were present on the videoconference to establish a quorum and due notice had been published: Board President Bridget Mattson; Vice President Sonya Skan; Clerk-Treasurer Diane Gubatayao; Board Members Leslie Becker; Jordan Tabb, Thomas Heutte; and Paul Robbins Jr. Student Board Member Brendan Roof was absent and excused.

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

**Explanation of remote “location” via video conference**

Board President Bridget Mattson explained the unique circumstances which led to the School Board holding its meeting virtually via videoconference. The state had issued mandates to stay at home. Additionally, the regular meeting location of the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers was not available due to its closure. Ms. Mattson noted that the meeting was being broadcast on KPU Channel 685 and streamed live via the district’s website. She also commented that other school boards in Alaska are also conducting their business in this manner.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion to approve the agenda**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: BECKER

**ROLL CALL**

**HEUTTE, SKAN, GUBATAYAO, BECKER, TABB, ROBBINS JR., MATTSON – ALL AYES**

**MOTION PASSED**

**PUBLIC RECOGNITION**

Board Member Diane Gubatayao recognized the district committee that had been working on preparing to educate students via distance delivery.

**CITIZEN REMARKS**

(Accommodations had been made for submittal of written comments and for telephonic testimony. No citizens had arranged to do so by the time of the meeting.)

**INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

There were no reports.

**CLAIMS FOR INFORMATION** – There were no questions.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Beth Lougee read statements addressed to students, teachers and other staff, and to parents regarding this extraordinary time of dealing with the coronavirus pandemic, and the need to work together and lean on each other. She prefaced the statements by stressing that although school facilities

are closed, education is not. Speaking to the students, the Superintendent noted that the situation was unprecedented in her career, and beyond anyone's control. She told students "we miss you" and asked them to focus on moving forward. Addressing parents, Ms. Lougee thanked them for their patience and spoke about how teachers and staff were preparing to educate their children, as well as provide school meals. She said the district is trying to meet student needs as quickly, efficiently, and safely as possible. Superintendent Lougee commended all the district's employees - teachers, administrators and others – for their work, and encouraged continued teamwork and learning from each other.

In closing, Superintendent Lougee asked everyone to keep updated on the rapidly changing COVID-19 situation, and noted the information and resources posted on the school district website.

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

**Motion to adopt new Board Policy 6114.4 - Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies in second reading.**

Moved by: HEUTTE; Second by: GUBATAYAO

Public Hearing

No public members had arranged to comment.

Board Discussion

There was none.

**ROLL CALL**

**TABB, ROBBINS JR., GUBATAYAO, HEUTTE, SKAN, BECKER, MATTSON – ALL AYES**

**MOTION PASSED**

After the vote, President Mattson noted that procedures for dealing with a pandemic were already in place and had been followed.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Motion to approve the Consent Calendar of March 25, 2020.**

Moved by: TABB; Second by: HEUTTE

- *Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 11, 2020.*
- *Motion to approve the emergency special meeting minutes of March 13, 2020.*
- *Motion to approve the emergency special meeting minutes of March 18, 2020*

**ROLL CALL**

**SKAN, HEUTTE, GUBATAYAO, BECKER, ROBBINS JR., TABB, MATTSON – ALL AYES**

**MOTION PASSED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion to approve the non-tenured certified contracts for the 2020-2021 school year.**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: BECKER

Discussion

Board Member Gubatayao asked about a hire date noted on the non-tenured list which indicated the teacher would have already achieved tenure. Superintendent Lougee said that a lapse in service might have occurred, but she would double-check.

Business Manager Katie Parrott followed up by stating that some individuals on the list had worked for the district in other positions before becoming teachers.

**ROLL CALL**

**GUBATAYAO, ROBBINS JR., BECKER, TABB, HEUTTE, SKAN, MATTSON – ALL AYES**

**MOTION PASSED**

## **DISCUSSION**

Board Committees - President Mattson noted that historical information on committees had been provided to the Board, as well as recommendations from the Association of Alaska School Boards.

Ms. Gubatayao suggested that an "executive committee" review the subject and make recommendations to the Board. With no other comments or objections, President Mattson stated that the three officers would meet to go over committee structure and make recommendations to the Board by the next meeting.

## **BOARD COMMENTS**

Ms. Gubatayao stated appreciation to the district staff who had provided training and served lunches. She said she had heard the trainings set up for staff had been excellent, such as those provided by school nurse Arizona Jacobs.

Board President Mattson thanked the superintendent and business manager for their work and noted their long hours. She said that the state had been looking at Ketchikan's lead in dealing with the COVID-19 situation, and credited Superintendent Lougee for her forethought in all the varied areas of planning.

Ms. Skan also stated her appreciation for district staff's work. She also said she'd shared details about Ketchikan district's planning with a colleague in another state, and that person had been impressed.

## **ADVANCE PLANNING**

Future Board events were briefly discussed.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President Mattson stated that due to the technology being used, the Board would probably not be able to return to regular session on the live stream. However, the executive session was the last item on the agenda and no action would be taken.

## **Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss negotiations with the Administrative Assistants, a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the school district.**

Moved by: ROBBINS JR.; Second by: HEUTTE

## **ROLL CALL**

**ROBBINS JR., BECKER, HEUTTE, SKAN, TABB, GUBATAYAO, MATTSON – ALL AYES**  
**MOTION PASSED**

The Board entered Executive Session at approximately 6:42 p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 7:05 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded for adjournment, and with no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

*Minutes approved as distributed at the April 8, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Education.*

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BOARD PRESIDENT  
Bridget Mattson