

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular meeting of March 11, 2020**

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

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in regular session on the 11th day of March, 2020, in the Ketchikan Borough Assembly Chambers. Board President Bridget Mattson 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 Bridget Mattson; Vice President Sonya Skan; Clerk-Treasurer Diane Gubatayao; Board Members Leslie Becker; Paul Robbins Jr., and Thomas Heutte. Board Member Jordan Tabb was absent and excused. Student Henry Clark was attending as the student board member.

Administrative staff consisted of Beth Lougee, Superintendent; Business Manager Katie Parrott; and Clerk to the Board Kerry Watson.

The regular meeting was preceded by a work session regarding the budget.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion to approve the agenda as a guide.**

Moved by: SKAN; Second by: GUBATAYAO

**Motion to amend**

**Motion to postpone Item 15 a (the executive session regarding a student disciplinary hearing) to a later date to be determined.**

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: GUBATAYAO

**Discussion**

There was no discussion.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

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

**MOTION PASSED**

**PUBLIC RECOGNITION**

Board Member Diane Gubatayao recognized Ketchikan High School students Lauren Scarzella and Ella Stockhausen for their selection for the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy, which was held in Homer the previous weekend.

Ms. Gubatayao also noted that fellow Board member Sonya Skan would be honored that weekend at the Women In Safe Homes' Women of Distinction event.

Board Member Sonya Skan remarked on Alaska Airlines providing an entire unscheduled jet to transport Ketchikan students to the regional basketball tournament, after their expected flights were cancelled.

Superintendent Beth Lougee added that another company, GCI, had paid for airline exchange fees.

## **CITIZEN REMARKS**

Kristina Townsend spoke about the harmful effects of pesticides, and described her own daughter's illnesses due to pesticides. She urged use of organic options instead, and provided written information on the topic to the Board.

## **CLAIMS FOR INFORMATION - March 6, 2020**

Board Member Skan asked about the district's purchases of milk for school meals due to Tatsuda's closure. Business Manager Katie Parrott reported that Alaskan and Proud will fulfill the milk contract as well as providing fresh fruit for the school food service programs, and is honoring the same bid prices.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Superintendent Beth Lougee noted that much of her recent work has been focused on dealing with the coronavirus issue. She's been in daily meetings with local emergency personnel (Emergency Operations Center) and participating in state-conducted teleconferences on the subject. Planning for all types of situations in regards to the coronavirus are being made and the evolving situation may affect upcoming student travel out of state and events such as prom and graduation. Superintendent Lougee noted that the Juneau school district is stressing healthy hygiene practices for all those attending the regional basketball tournament and coaches know what to do if a student shows potential symptoms of the virus. She also described the discrete process that would occur to send a student home from school if they come back after Spring Break and show symptoms of coronavirus. She said the school nurse has written administrative regulations to accompany the Board Policy on epidemics and pandemics which was before the Board for approval that evening. Additionally, planning is also occurring for continued instruction in case of school closure.

## **Directors' Reports**

Superintendent Lougee also updated the Board on what has been occurring in the Curriculum Department, including the following:

- The science curriculum committee hopes to have recommendations for K-12 curriculum adoption ready for the next Board meeting;
- A six year plan for the science curriculum is also being developed;
- An English/Language Arts decision on purchasing or continuing a pilot of Collaborative Classroom is yet to be determined;
- The District plans to purchase MAPS (Measure of Academic Progress) for grades 3-10 for progress monitoring, but continue with AIMS Web for grades K, 1, 2, due to the areas it covers which are applicable in those primary grades, such as early reading fluency.

## **Business Manager**

Business Manager Katie Parrott briefed the Board on activities in the Business Department. The new software implementation is continuing and the first round of certificated contracts will be issued under the system. Budget development and negotiations are occurring as well. In response to a Board member question, Ms. Parrott said that new system now provides an automated reminder of contract renewal dates to certificated staff.

## **Student Board Member's Report**

Henry Clark provided the Student Member Report. First, he noted that the boys' and girls' basketball teams, pep club, pep band, dance team and cheer squad are in Juneau for the 4A regional basketball tournament. Both the Kayhi Kings boys' team (defending state champions) and girls' (repeating regional champions) are seeded second. He also reported that Sara Campbell's speech class from Kayhi took a field trip to Houghtaling Elementary to read to students on Dr. Seuss Day. Henry also briefly reported on spring sports starting up, including track, baseball, softball and soccer. Lastly, he presented Kayhi results from the state Academic Decathlon tournament: Matthew Nutt scored a gold medal in the interview event; August Cooper won a bronze in essay; Franchezca Correa was honored as the team's top scorer; and the Kayhi team took 3rd in the super quiz and seventh overall.

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

**Motion to approve new Board Policy 6114.4 - Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies in first reading.**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: BECKER

Public Hearing

No public members commented.

Board Discussion

Board Member Tom Heutte asked for some clarification about quarantine as mentioned in the policy, as to what extent could occur. He also asked if the district could close a school entirely.

Superintendent Lougee said that the district, with Board approval, can close schools for a day or two in order to conduct a thorough cleaning. However, the state's guidance is that a closure for any length of time would be a decision made in accordance with the public health department and the associated state departments.

Board Member Paul Robbins Jr. asked who at a school would make the decision on whether a student needed to be quarantined or not. The school nurse would make that decision, said Ms. Lougee; and she is training the health aides at schools on signs to watch for.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

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

***MOTION PASSED***

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

*a. Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 26, 2020.*

*b. Motion to approve the out-of-state travel request for the Kayhi track team to travel in April to meets in Washington state.*

*c. Motion to approve Resolution #20-06 regarding an amendment to the 457(b) Retirement Plan.*

**Motion to approve the Consent Calendar of March 11, 2020.**

Moved by: ROBBINS JR.; Second by: BECKER

Board Member Sonya Skan requested to pull Item "b," an out of state travel request.

**ROLL CALL - Remaining Consent Calendar**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

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

***MOTION PASSED***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 22, 2020.**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: HEUTTE

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

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

***MOTION PASSED***

**Motion to approve the out-of-state travel request for the Kayhi track team to travel to Washington.**

Moved by: ROBBINS JR.; Second by: GUBATAYAO

**Discussion**

Board Member Skan explained that she had pulled this item so that Superintendent Lougee could speak to plans for out-of-state travel in regards to the coronavirus situation.

Superintendent Lougee explained that, if approved, the track trip would be subject to the same situation as the baseball and softball trips approved at the Board's last meeting. The pending trips are being monitored and could be cancelled at any time if evolving situations warrant.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

**ROBBINS, BECKER, GUBATAYAO, SKAN, HEUTTE, MATTSON - ALL AYES**

***MOTION PASSED***

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion to approve a teaching contract with Holly Paulson for the 2019-20 school year at KGBSD, in the amount of \$28,299.96**

Moved by: ROBBINS JR; Second by: SKAN

**Discussion**

In answer to Ms. Gubatayao, Superintendent Lougee briefly explained Ms. Paulson's education credentials, and what her role as an intervention teacher at Fawn Mountain would be. Ms. Paulson is certified in elementary education, with an emphasis in early childhood, but cannot write IEPs or sign off on them, said Superintendent Lougee. She will work with small groups including special education students, providing time for the school's special education teachers to write the IEPs and do other required paperwork. Ms. Lougee noted there are 52 students identified with special needs at Fawn Mountain.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

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

***MOTION PASSED***

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

Moved by: HEUTTE; Second by: BECKER

**Discussion Potential Conflict of Interest Ruling**

Board Member Diane Gubatayao declared she had a potential conflict of interest as her daughter and daughter-in-law were both tenured teachers on the list for approval.

Board President Mattson ruled that Ms. Gubatayao did not have a conflict of interest and could vote, after confirming that neither individual resided with Ms. Gubatayao nor would she benefit financially by their employment.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

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

***MOTION PASSED***

**Motion to ratify the 2020-2023 Negotiated Labor Contract between KGBSD and KEA Certified.**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: HEUTTE

**Discussion**

Business Manager Katie Parrott remarked on the collaborative nature of the negotiations process, answered a few questions about the negotiated contract, and highlighted the major changes.

The major changes included:

- Salary schedule with agreement as to a cost of living increase. After looking at a ten-year average of the Consumer Price Index, and accounting for inflation, a 1.78% was applied to the salary schedule.
- Education “lanes” for were added, and other changes were made to incentivize continuing education.
- Regarding health insurance, it was recognized that employees needed to contribute more to better manage costs, said Ms. Parrott. A 90/10 split was established, and it was mutually agreed that the split would be based on 104 of expected claims that will be presented during the negotiated renewal of health insurance.
- New to the contract is an agreement regarding notification of retirement. A person who submits their irrevocable notice of retirement to the district by January will be able to cash out their personal leave.

Board member Leslie Becker asked questions about addressing health insurance costs, during the term of the contract. She stated she didn’t think the agreed to structure was sustainable. Ms. Parrott noted there were provisions for evaluating the health insurance plan during the life of the contract. In addition, a district “Insurance Committee” still exists.

There was some discussion about the Insurance Committee.

Lastly, Ms. Parrott addressed the fiscal note represented by the negotiated agreement. The agreed to contract adds “new” money to what is already represented under current salary obligations to staff. The negotiated contract adds \$198,000 to the money already represented in the contract, said Ms. Parrot. With the teacher’s retirement system contributions and benefits, the amount is more than \$250,000.

She also stated, however, that with retirements and potential for replacement teachers to come in even just a few salary steps lower, the contractual costs will mainly be offset.

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

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

***MOTION PASSED***

**DISCUSSION**

*Board Committees* – Discussion on special and standing board committees. Research on committees had not been provided as intended to aid in the discussion, so further discussion was postponed until a future meeting.

**CITIZEN REMARKS:**

No citizens commented.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

Ms. Gubatayao suggested the individual who had spoken earlier be invited to a district safety committee meeting.

Ms. Mattson thanked Houghtaling Elementary for inviting Board members to read for Dr. Seuss day.

**Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss negotiations with the Administrative Assistants; and negotiations with IBEW-Maintenance, matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the school district.**

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: BECKER

**ROLL CALL**

**Student Member Henry Clark (preferential vote) - AYE**

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

***MOTION PASSED***

The Board entered executive session at about 7:40. The session ended and the Board returned to regular session at 8:11 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Future meeting dates were noted, and a motion was made and seconded for adjournment. With no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

*Meeting minutes approved as distributed at the March 25, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Education.*

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BOARD PRESIDENT

Bridget Mattson