

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA STATEMENT

No 10 a

MEETING of: May 26, 2021

Item Title

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of the emergency special meeting minutes of May 4, 2021.

SUBMITTED BY: Kerry Watson, Clerk to the Board

CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Motion to approve the emergency special meeting minutes of May 4, 2021.

*** NOTE:**

If amendments or corrections to the minutes are desired, a Board member should request removal of the minutes from the Consent Calendar.

The minutes will then be acted upon under Unfinished Business. Appropriate motions to correct or amend the minutes are then in order.

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
EMERGENCY Special meeting
of Tuesday, May 4, 2020
7:50 p.m.
Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers**

CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in an **emergency special session** on the 4th day of May, 2021, in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers. Board President Kim Hodne called the meeting to order at 7:51 p.m. (*The emergency meeting took place after that evening's special session had been adjourned.*)

The following members were present to establish a quorum and due notice had been published: Board President Kim Hodne; Clerk-Treasurer Bridget Mattson; and Board Members Jordan Tabb and Nicole Anderson. Board Members Diane Gubatayao and Paul Robbins Jr. participated via teleconference.

Administrative staff included: Acting Superintendent Katie Parrott; and Board Clerk Kerry Watson.

DISCUSSION - PURPOSE OF EMERGENCY MEETING

The purpose of calling the emergency special meeting was to consider recommendations for the district's school operations in response to the uptick in COVID cases, indicated Board President Kim Hodne.

Acting Superintendent Katie Parrott reported that during the Board's just completed special meeting, the Emergency Operations Center had increased the community risk level to Level 3 - High. She read some of the details of the EOC's press release announcing that risk level change. Twelve (12) new positive COVID cases had been reported that day, and 9 on the previous day. In the past 10 days, there had been more than 10 positive cases attributed to staff or students of Ketchikan High School. The community risk indicators were trending up, the press release stated.

Ms. Parrott said that due to the number of positive cases attributed to Ketchikan High School and the potential close contacts that needed to be identified, the EOC and Public Health officials had recommended closing Kayhi to onsite instruction through the week. In addition, the district's medium risk level operations should be evaluated for the rest of the schools, she said. As acting superintendent, Ms. Parrott had already informed Ketchikan High school to remain in asynchronous, off-site learning for the rest of the week. She asked the Board to ratify this decision and to give direction on the school risk levels overall. Ms. Parrott said it was planned that Kayhi would return to a 50% model on Monday, May 10. She also noted that at the current time, cases were not being seen at the other secondary schools; however there had been some impact to families through the district due to the community's increased cases.

For approximately 30 minutes, the Board discussed the just described situation and its potential direction for the acting superintendent. Several Board members noted their desire for as much in school time as possible; however, it was also noted the school outbreak was serious enough that state health officials were taking note. The impact on other schools was also discussed.

Ms. Parrott said that state and local public health officials and the EOC commander had agreed to make themselves available the following day to update the Board on the fast-moving situation. The meeting would have to be held by videoconference due to the raised community risk level, she added.

Board Member Jordan Tabb suggested ratifying the decision to close Kayhi through the rest of the week and that further direction be given at an emergency meeting the next day.

Acting Superintendent Parrott stated that the district would follow its Smart Start Plan, but direction was needed if the Board wanted to deviate from that plan.

Board members expressed support for the closure of Kayhi through the week, and keeping the other schools open at their current operation. The Board agreed to meet the following day to receive more information on the COVID situation and to provide further direction.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. With no objection, the emergency special meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.