

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA STATEMENT

No 8c.

MEETING of: June 11, 2025

Item Title

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of the regular meeting minutes of May 28, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: Chloe Hall, School Board Clerk

*** 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 would then be acted upon under Unfinished Business. Appropriate motions to correct or amend the minutes would be in order.

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Meeting of May 28, 2025
Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers**

CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in a regular session on the 28th day of May 2025, in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers. Board President Katherine Tatsuda 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:

President Katherine Tatsuda, Members Judy Leask Guthrie, Ali Ginter, Steve Thomas, and Paul Robbins Jr.

Administrative staff present included School Board Clerk Chloe Hall and Business Manager Daniel Schuler.

Vice President Jordan Tabb and Student Member Lilly Pader both had excused absences.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/S: Guthrie/Thomas

Motion to modify agenda to add motion for Member Robbins to apply for the vacant seat on the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) – Board of Directors to New Business.

M/S: Robbins Jr./Guthrie

ROLL CALL:

YES: Guthrie, Ginter, Thomas, Robbins Jr., Tatsuda

(MOTION APPROVED 5-0)

The agenda was approved as modified.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

School Board Member Lilly Pader

President Tatsuda shared special recognition to the student board member Lilly Pader for participating in board meetings through the 2024-2025 school year, and shared that the board looks forward to working with her again next year.

Recognition of 2024 Retirees

President Tatsuda shared thanks from the board to all of the staff members, certified and classified, who are retiring from the district this year.

Teacher Appreciation Week

President Tatsuda shared a proclamation in honor of Teacher Appreciation week for 2025.

National School Nurse Day

President Tatsuda shared a proclamation in honor of National School Nurse Day 2025.

CITIZEN REMARKS

Roger Stone came to the podium and shared that his daughter was on her way from the airport and requested

that the board let her make public comments when she arrives. There were no objections from the board.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

ELL Committee:

Member Ginter shared that she had no new information to share with the board aside from the discussion on forming a district department the board would be voting on later in the night.

Policy Committee:

Member Paul Robbins Jr shared a policy committee meeting will be held to review and amend existing policies, including a policy regarding citizen complaints. Robbins Jr. asked that any board members with policies they would like to send them to him prior to the meeting.

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION:

Claims of April 25, 2025

Claims of May 9, 2025

April Board Financial Report

No Objections, CLAIMS AND FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 26, 2025

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 14, 2025

Motion to approve the special meeting minutes of May 21, 2025

~~Motion to approve offering of Certified Contracts for the 2025-26 School Year.~~

Motion to remove the offering of Certified Contracts for the 2025-26 school year from consent calendar.

M: Ginter

Motion to approve the consent calendar as modified:

M/S: Guthrie/Ginter

ROLL CALL:

YES - Guthrie, Robbins Jr., Ginter, Thomas, Tatsuda

(MOTION APPROVED 5-0)

CITIZEN REMARKS

Tiffany Cook, parent in the district, shared her concerns about the school specialization and the upcoming changes in the instructional model for the district.

Torin Cook, student at Point Higgins Elementary, shared his disappointment with the board about the upcoming school specialization.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Motion to approve offering of Certified Contracts for the 2025-26 School Year.

M/S: Robbins Jr./Guthrie

DISCUSSION:

Member Ginter asked questions regarding the hiring process, particularly for administrators. Board members talked about emergency certificates, and spoke about the flexibility in the hiring process at the end of the year

due to resignations. The board also discussed the state's view of emergency certificates as equivalent or regular certificates.

ROLL CALL:

YES: Guthrie, Robbins Jr., Thomas, Ginter, Tatsuda

(MOTION APPROVED 5-0)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to accept the resignation of Tom Heutte from the Board of Education effective immediately and declare his seat vacant.

M/S: Robbins Jr./Guthrie

DISCUSSION:

Member Robbins Jr. shared his thanks to Member Heutte for stepping down, and his resignation was appropriate.

ROLL CALL:

YES: Robbins Jr., Gurthire, Thomas, Ginter, Tatsuda

(MOTION APPROVED 5-0)

Motion for the board to re-establishing the ELL department

M/S: Ginter/Robbins Jr.

DISCUSSION:

Member Ginter shared the history of the ELL Committee, sharing that the committee's main goal is to be reestablished as a department in the district. Board members asked clarifying questions on who would run the department. Member Ginter shared the ELL Committees list of recommendations with the board. The board shared their concerns with assigning this duty to anyone while the board is unsure who the next superintendent will be, and shared concerns with directing staff to create the department without the input from the incoming superintendent.

Motion to amend the original motion to read "Motion for the Board of Education to instruct the Superintendent to reestablish the ELL Department."

M/S: Robbins Jr./Guthrie

ROLL CALL:

YES: Guthrie, Robbins Jr., Ginter, Tatusda

(MOTION TO AMEND APPROVED 5-0)

SUBSIDIARY MOTION - Motion to postpone until the meeting of July 9, 2025

M/S: Robbins Jr./Guthrie

ROLL CALL:

YES: Robbins Jr., Guthrie, Tatsuda

NO: Thomas, Ginter

(MOTION APPROVED 3-2)

Motion for Member Robbins to apply for the vacant seat on the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) – Board of Directors on behalf of Ketchikan.

M/S: Robbins Jr./Guthrie

DISCUSSION:

Robbins Jr. shared that he believes his experience as an appointed and elected member over the years, along with his communication skills, would be beneficial to the AASB Board of Directors. Robbins Jr. emphasized having a representative from Ketchikan and Southeast on the board.

ROLL CALL:

YES: Ginter, Robbins Jr., Guthrie, Thomas, Tatsuda

(MOTION APPROVED 5-0)

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Election of the Clerk-Treasurer

Nomination: Ali Ginter

M: Robbins Jr.

NO OBJECTIONS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent search, per Board Policy 9321 - a subject that could tend to prejudice a person's reputation and character.

M/S: Robbins Jr./Guthrie

ROLL CALL:

YES: Thomas, Robbins Jr., Ginter, Guthrie, Tatsuda

(MOTION PASSES 5-0)

The board entered into executive session from 6:48-9:04 p.m.

Member Robbins Jr. shared that during executive session the Board had decided to give President Tatsuda permission to begin negotiations with an interim candidate for Superintendent.

BOARD COMMENTS

Member Ginter shared the deep conversations, and that although the road has been bumpy she is optimistic about the future.

Member Robbins Jr. wished President Tatsuda a happy birthday and thanked her for her time spent at the board meetings.

Thomas shared that graduation was an amazing experience, and shared congratulations to the 2025

graduates.

Member Guthrie shared happy birthday wishes to President Tatsuda, and shared her disappointment in missing graduation.

President Tatsuda thanked everyone for being there, and shared thanks to everyone for their hard work during a difficult year. Tatsuda shared that the board is committed to continuing to do better, and committed to growth in the coming year. Tatsuda congratulated all of the 2025 graduates, and thanked everyone for the birthday wishes.

ADVANCE PLANNING

School Board Regular meeting June 11, 2025 at 6:00 p.m, in the Borough Assembly Chambers.

School Board Special meeting June 25, 2025 at 6:00 p.m, in the Borough Assembly Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:10 p.m.

BOARD PRESIDENT
Katherine Tatsuda

Board Vice President
Jordan Tabb

Clerk Treasurer
Ali Ginter