

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA STATEMENT

No. 9 a

MEETING OF March 11, 2020

ITEM TITLE:

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of the regular meeting minutes of February 26, 2020

SUBMITTED BY: Kerry Watson, Clerk to the Board

CONTACT PERSON/TELEPHONE:

Kerry Watson 247-2142
Phone

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:


Superintendent

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

*** NOTE:**

If amendments or corrections are desired to the minutes, request removal of the minutes. The minutes will then be acted upon under Unfinished Business. Appropriate motions to correct or amend the minutes are in order.

Otherwise, the motion to accept the Consent Calendar of March 11, 2020 is appropriate.

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular meeting of February 26, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in regular session on the 26th day of February, 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; Jordan Tabb; and Paul Robbins Jr. Mr. Robbins Jr. participated telephonically as he was out of town. Student Member Brendan Roof was also present.

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

Other district staff included: Houghtaling Elementary School Principal Michael Cron, Assistant Principal Nick Higson,

President Bridget Mattson read the district's vision and mission statement.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by: SKAN; Second by: GUBATAYAO

Motion to amend

Motion to amend the agenda by moving item 15 a (Executive Session regarding Personnel) to occur next.

Item 15 a: Motion to enter into Executive Session for a Personnel Issue, a subject that may tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: HEUTTE

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE

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

Executive Session

President Mattson stated that Superintendent Beth Lougee would be present in the executive session. With no objection expressed to entering the executive session, the Board did so at 6:05 p.m.

Regular Session resumes

The executive session ended at 6:34 p.m. President Mattson stated that no action was taken.

Board Member Diane Gubatayao stated that she would like to make an apology for some comments made at a previous meeting. She said she regrets any harm or hurt it may have caused and that she was sorry for the remarks.

President Mattson stated that Board training was going to be conducted on March 24 with the Association of Alaska School Boards.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Board Member Gubatayao commented on Alaska Airlines aiding with student travel for regionals, due to the situation with the Alaska Marine Highway.

CITIZEN REMARKS

Jack Finnegan, who has worked as a substitute teacher as well as volunteer artist in the district, read a statement regarding the change in high school graduation requirements. He emphasized the importance of developing critical thinking skills, and the study of history. He asked that history requirements not be lessened.

Susan Webb, who works at Schoenbar Middle School, and has been employed by the district for about 13 years, stated that she didn't feel justice had been served in a situation she said had occurred at the school a couple weeks ago.

Thomas Brooks, who is a paraprofessional at Schoenbar, stated that, due to a recent change at the school, he will miss an individual and he added that the atmosphere of the school will change.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Native Education Committee -Board Member Sonya Skan reported on the focus of the Native Education Committee including making sure Native students get the best education possible. She shared a book on culturally responsive schools with the Board. She also spoke about some meetings she attended in Washington state with heads of education departments.

Policy committee – Ms. Gubatayao noted that a policy which was to be discussed later in the meeting had been reviewed by the policy committee.

Curriculum committee – Ms. Mattson said that the curriculum committee had an all-day meeting regarding the science curriculum the previous day.

Safety committee meeting – Superintendent Lougee commented on the district safety committee's work. A crisis management document is almost complete and will come to the Board for its review.

REPORTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS – SUPERINTENDENT/STAFF:

Superintendent Beth Lougee provided an overview of her report, including the following:

- A district/School Board government to government consultation with Ketchikan Indian Community is being planned;
- A MOU with KIC will be provided at an upcoming KIC Education Committee meeting;
- Committee work to address the ALICE student curriculum will begin soon;
- Parents are being notified about the upcoming PEAKS assessments in math, English/Language Arts and science;
- In an effort to recruit and retain teachers, teams of key personnel are being sent to recruitment fairs;
- The next budget presentation will be on March 7 in the Borough Assembly chambers;

Houghtaling Elementary School Report:

Principal Michael Cron described Houghtaling Elementary School as a "school of the community." He stated that community-building had been a focus of his first year as principal at the school. The oldest elementary school in the district has educated generations of families, he noted. He said it had a diverse student population of about 393 with 81 staff. Principal Cron noted that its special education offerings are unique, with three separate programs: for resource, for children with various disabilities such as autism, and a program for students with behavioral issues. Mr. Cron also noted a few changes in demographics at the school. One of those is that the number of children qualifying for free and reduced students has

decreased. He shared assessment information with the Board, noting that the proficiency level in some of the PEAKS assessments was trending the wrong way. The school will be working on that issue, he said. Meanwhile the scores from AIMS Web, a screener to determine intervention needs, are positive.

Principal Cron also highlighted some special events and programs at the school, including a recent project initiated by fifth-graders. They proposed a shed to house equipment used on the playground. A grant from IBEW helped fund the shed's construction. He also commented on the popularity of cedar weaving instruction at the school.

Assistant Principal Nick Higson followed up by speaking spoke about the school's efforts on Positive Behavior Supports. A committee meets every two weeks before school to share ideas collectively on increasing success of students through interventions, he said; and elaborated a bit more.

Superintendent Report continued

Ms. Lougee introduced Alan Jacobson as the new director of maintenance. He replaced Rich McAlpin, who resigned to take a job in Arizona. Mr. Jacobson introduced himself as a life-long resident who was schooled here. He has been with the district maintenance as the heavy electrician/ HVAC person for his whole tenure.

Superintendent Lougee provided updates in the areas of curriculum and special education, including:

- Noting the activities of the Title VI Native Education Parent committee;
- Announcing that Kayhi teacher Rebecca Bowlen will be collaborating on a Native American literature class with Priscilla Schulte of the University of Southeast - Ketchikan and Teresa Varnell, the district's cultural coordinator;
- The science curriculum committee is close to finalizing its recommendation for the Board;
- The district will continue to pilot Collaborative Classrooms, a K-5 English/Language Arts program;
- Ninety- percent of staff have completed the ALICE training modules;
- MAP is being considered for the high school to go along with its PBIS program;
- The Special Education department is readying to administer the alternative assessments, which occur along with PEAKS assessment;
- Special Education Director Terri Crofcheck will be one of the individuals attending job fairs, with the goal of hiring qualified speech/language and occupational therapists;
- A task force would be welcome in the 2020-2021 school year to review current special education programs.

Student Board Member's Report

Brendan Roof highlighted two academic teams and their notable achievements - the Debate, Drama, Forensics team and the National Ocean Sciences Bowl team. He also commented that seniors in debate weren't able to participate in a court visit in Ketchikan, but substituted it appropriately with a visit to the State Capitol Building in Juneau. They sat in on some finance hearings and met with Rep. Dan Ortiz. Brendan remarked on U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski's recent visit to Kayhi, to which he said the whole auditorium of Kayhi students paid attention. He also noted he'd heard positive feedback on the recent financial aid reality fair put on by a local credit union.

Business Manager Report - Budget

Business Manager Katie Parrott provided a comprehensive explanation of how the district's budget is developed and the status of the current budget. As part of that, she described what types of expenditures fall under "restricted," such as special education legally required services, statutorily-required building maintenance, and contractual obligations. The district has some latitude or discretion in other "unrestricted" areas of the budget, she noted. Ms. Parrott provided data on the number of staff, and the fiscal note of various district programs or services and at each school, with comparisons to the previous year's budget. There were a few questions from the Board. Superintendent Lougee said that specifics on the FY 21 budget would be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

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

Motion to adopt the recommended changes to graduation requirements in second reading, as reflected in the proposed revisions Board Policy 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements.

Moved by: TABB; Second by: GUBATAYAO

Public Hearing

There was no public comment.

Board Discussion

Student Board Member Brendan explained why he supported students being able to take either the ACT, SAT or Work Keys, as is now provided for in the revised policy and administrative regulations. He also said he strongly believes that 3.5 social studies credits should be required. He added that having 3 full years of social studies is important. He said that students drop courses at the semester after fulfilling their credit requirements.

There was some discussion on number of required credits. Principal Jason House came to the podium to address this. He said that increasing requirements to 3.5 social studies credits was discussed, as well as increasing the overall total graduation requirements. However, Mr. House said the consensus, after surveys and conversations with the social studies department, was to keep the social studies credits at 3, and offer more flexibility in courses to obtain those credits.

Mr. Tabb stated that it didn't feel right not to advocate for an increase in requirements, as he was a social studies major. However, he stated he is inclined to move forward with what is being recommended.

Board Member Skan stated students need to be aware that meeting graduation requirements is not enough to be eligible for certain scholarships. She indicated students needed to be made aware of that.

Superintendent Lougee asked that the Board support the recommended changes, noting the work and research by staff.

Board Member Tom Heutte stated he would support the recommendations, citing the hard work behind them. He said he wouldn't second guess that work.

ROLL CALL

**Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - NAY
GUBATAYAO, TABB, HEUTTE, ROBBINS JR., MATTSON - AYES
SKAN, BECKER - NAYS
5-2**

MOTION PASSED

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Motion to approve the special meeting minutes of February 12, 2020.
- Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 12, 2020.
- Motion to approve the out-of-state travel request for the Kayhi baseball team to attend an April spring training tournament in Orlando, Florida.
- Motion to approve the out-of-state travel request for the Kayhi softball team to attend the April Spring Break Softball Classic in Las Vegas.
- Motion to adopt Resolution 20-05 regarding the designation of Hazardous Routes.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar of February 26, 2020.

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: HEUTTE

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE
ROBBINS JR., BECKER, HEUTTE, SKAN, TABB, GUBATAYAO, MATTSON - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to approve the 2020-2021 Administrative Contracts.*

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: HEUTTE

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE
TABB, HEUTTE, ROBBINS JR., BECKER, SKAN, GUBATAYAO, MATTSON - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

**List of recommended contracts attached to the minutes as reference.*

Motion to approve the hire of Alan Jacobson as the Director of Maintenance.

Moved by: HEUTTE; Second by: GUBATAYAO

Discussion

Ms. Gubatayao stated she was pleased to have someone local with his experience and service to the district.

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE
BECKER, HEUTTE, ROBBINS JR., TABB, SKKAN, GUBATAYAO, MATTSON - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the contract with Brian Adams for the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved by: TABB; Second by: BECKER

Discussion

Ms. Gubatayao stated she hopes the administrators are successful in recruiting full-time staff.

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE
ROBBINS JR., HEUTTE, TABB, GUBATAYAO, BECKER, MATTSON

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve a teaching contract with Michelle Dyakanoff for the 2019-20 school year at KGBSD, in the amount of \$8,345.

Moved by: HEUTTE; Second by: BECKER

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion to adopt the Board goals for 2020-2021. *

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: HEUTTE

Discussion

Board Member Leslie Becker asked how the goals would be measured and asked specifically about some of the goals.

Ms. Mattson cited Board self-assessments and the possibility of discussing the goals semi-annually.

Other Board members weighed in on the discussion. Several noted that the goals are broad, but provide direction to the Superintendent.

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE

GUBATAYAO, BECKER, TABB, HEUTTE, SKAN, ROBBINS JR., MATTSON - AYES

MOTION PASSED

DISCUSSION

AASB Policy 6114.4 - Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies. Superintendent Lougee presented this policy from AASB, and recommending it come back to the Board for first reading, due to current issues.

*Board Committees:*The purpose of various committees, standing and special, was discussed. It was requested that information on committee origin and charters be provided for the next meeting.

CITIZEN REMARKS:

Gloria Burns stated she is an aunt of children in the school district. She shared her concern that her middle-school age nieces do not feel connected to their school or even with their peers. She asked that the Board look into the school's climate.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Robbins Jr. commended the district staff for bringing up the pandemic plan and being proactive. He stated that people should not give into fear regarding the coronavirus, and cited information from the CDC. Trust experts in the field, he said.

Brendan brought up the recent achievement by Kayhi basketball player Chris Lee who broke the basketball scoring record set by Steve Ortiz in the 70s. Brendan also commented that it has a year since he became the student Board member and thanked his fellow Board members for the opportunity.

Ms. Skan stated how impressed she had been with Brendan.

Ms. Mattson thanked the district schools for hosting events to commemorate Elizabeth Peratrovich. She specifically commented on the events at Tongass School of Arts and Sciences. She also stated that she was grateful for the community and that people are devoted to students' success.

Ms. Gubatayao added some complimentary comments on the TSAS presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Superintendent/Board Relations, a matter the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the school district.

Moved by: TABB; Second by: GUBATAYAO

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE

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

MOTION PASSED

It was announced that the Board and Superintendent Lougee would be present for the executive session. The Executive Session began at 9:02 p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 9:29 p.m.

President Mattson said that discussion was held about different situations in the district and upcoming budget issues.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss negotiations with KEA-Teachers and 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: GUBATAYAO; Second by: BECKER

President Mattson stated that Superintendent Lougee, Curriculum Director Alonso Escalante, and Business Manager Katie Parrott would be present in the session. She also noted that School Board Member Robbins Jr. had ended his telephone connection with the meeting at that point.

ROLL CALL

TABB, HEUTTE, SKAN, GUBATAYAO, BECKER, MATTSON - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

The executive session began at about 9:31 p.m. At about 9:57 p.m., the Board came back into regular session to approve a motion to extend the meeting past 10 p.m.

Motion to continue the meeting until 10:30 p.m.

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: TABB

ROLL CALL

TABB, HEUTTE, SKAN, GUBATAYAO, BECKER, MATTSON - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to go back into Executive Session for another 10 minutes to discuss negotiations with KEA-Certified (Teachers) and the Administrative Assistants.

Moved by: SKAN; Second by: HEUTTE

ROLL CALL

TABB, HEUTTE, SKAN, GUBATAYAO, BECKER, MATTSON - ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

The Board moved into executive session at about 10:01 p.m. At 10:12 p.m., the Executive Session ended and the Board resumed its regular session.

President Mattson stated that discussion was had, and direction was given.

Advance Planning

There was some discussion regarding agenda setting and upcoming Board meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, the Board meeting was adjourned at 10:14 p.m.