

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular meeting of September 25, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in regular session on the 25th day of September 2019, in the Ketchikan Borough Assembly Chambers. Board Vice President Sonya Skan 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: Vice President Sonya Skan; Clerk-Treasurer Diane Gubatayao; and Board members Leslie Becker; Bridget Mattson; and Thomas Heutte. Matt Eisenhower, Board President, participated via teleconference. Student Member Brendan Roof was also present. Board Member Rachel Breithaupt was absent and excused.

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

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Kings for Peace Week: Student Member Brendan Roof described some of the previous week's Peace Week activities at Ketchikan High School, including the creation of a "peace garden" in the Kayhi commons stairway area. The school held a Peace Dance and a special assembly as well, and money was raised for relief efforts for Hurricane Dorian, reported Brendan.

Board member Diane Gubatayao provided additional information regarding Peace Week. First City Rotary donated a persimmon tree to Kayhi as a symbol of peace. It is a descendent of a persimmon seed that survived the bombing of Hiroshima, said Ms. Gubatayao.

Board Member Leslie Becker said that both she and Board Member Bridget Mattson participated at the candidate forum the previous night with students from Kayhi government classes. Ms. Becker said she encouraged the students to continue engaging with the Board at its meetings.

Ms. Gubatayao stated recognition for the presenters at that Monday's district-wide staff development, pointing out they were all local.

CITIZEN REMARKS

No one came forward to speak.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Health Insurance Task Force: Board Member Tom Heutte said the Task Force's summary and recommendations are being finished for its September 30 deadline.

Superintendent Evaluation format: Board President Matt Eisenhower reported he'd communicated with Lon Garrison of the Association of Alaska School Boards regarding Superintendent evaluation formats. He suggested putting the superintendent evaluation information in the October 9 meeting packet with a further discussion at a potential work session in October.

CLAIMS FOR INFORMATION - September 20, 2019

Explanations were provided regarding an "Arbiter Sports fee" which has to do with student activities; and a payment to Presidio for IT switches.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Beth Lougee first referred to enrollment information provided in her written report, clarifying the note that enrollment was up 102 over last year. This number includes preschool students who are not counted as part of the October student count, she said. The enrollment is close to what was predicted for this year and a conservative approach was taken in applying those assumptions to the budget planning, according to Superintendent Lougee and Business Manager Katie Parrott.

Next, Ms. Lougee spoke briefly about the various assessments in the district. She emphasized that PEAKS is only part of the school district's comprehensive assessment system. In addition to others, she mentioned the benchmark assessments AimsWeb Plus and IXL. The latter is one the district plans to start using soon. Students are assessed with these benchmarks at least three times a year, she said.

Superintendent Lougee also noted activities taking place in the Curriculum Department, as well as in the Maintenance Department. Curriculum Director Alonso Escalate has been busy working with science teachers readying for this year's science adoption. Regarding the maintenance department, the Kayhi welding shop ventilation project has been completed.

Student Member's Report

Brendan Roof reported briefly on the municipal election candidate event with Kayhi students, mentioned earlier by Ms. Becker; and commented on the relevancy of the issues brought up by the students. He also reported that first Kayhi assembly of the year was held, recognizing the fall sports activities. In advisory period that day, freshman and sophomores attended a presentation by Rotary Interact and juniors and seniors had a presentation by Teen Advisory Group from the Ketchikan Public Library, said Brendan.

Cultural Resources Program

Teresa Varnell, the district's cultural coordinator, was asked to speak about the cultural resources program. First, Ms. Varnell recognized several elders in the audience and then emphasized that her work is a collaborative effort with the entire community. She stated that in her Haida culture it is inappropriate to talk about oneself and one's own accomplishments. Ms. Varnell acknowledged individuals who had supported and mentored her in this effort as well as the Ketchikan Indian Community. The cultural resource program is moving the school district toward being more culturally responsive with implementation of the state mandated cultural standards, she said. Ms. Varnell highlighted the language initiative that is part of the effort. Tlingit words are initially being taught, with Haida and Tsimshian to follow in the succeeding trimesters. She also spoke about plans to: provide training on culture and resources to teachers and administrators; bring artists such as Reg Davidson, Nathan Jackson and Holly Churchill into the schools; and work on cultural curriculum. Ms. Varnell also explained that her position is funded by the district and through the federal Title VI grant.

Ms. Gubatayao suggested a review of how the history and culture of this area is taught in the schools. Ms. Varnell responded, in part, that several school librarians have already approached her about a possible audit of their library resources.

****PUBLIC HEARINGS - POLICY ****

Motion to approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy 3452 - Student Activity Funds in first reading.

Moved by: HEUTTE; Second by: MATTSON

Public Hearing

No members of the public spoke.

Board Discussion

There was no Board discussion.

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE

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

MOTION PASSED

****PUBLIC HEARINGS - POLICY ****

Motion to approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy 3310 - Purchasing Procedures in first reading."

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: GUBATAYAO

Public Hearing

No members of the public spoke.

Board Discussion

Ms. Gubatayao commended Business Manager Parrott for her leadership and initiative in updating these policies.

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE

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

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy 3311 - Procurement (Bids) in first reading.

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: BECKER

Public Hearing

No members of the public spoke.

Board Discussion

This policy as well as the other previous ones were sent to Borough Attorney Glenn Brown several weeks ago, said Superintendent Lougee. Mr. Brown had some questions on the regulations, but not on the actual policy, she said.

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE

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

MOTION PASSED

****PUBLIC HEARINGS - POLICY****

Motion to approve revisions to Board Policy 5138 - Student Personal Electronic Device and Cell Phone Use in second reading."

Moved by: BECKER; Second by: MATTSON

Public Hearing

No members of the public spoke.

Board Discussion

Ms. Mattson said that this policy had been brought up by quite a few of the students attending the candidate event the previous evening.

Ms. Skan noted that previously questioned language had been taken out.

Mr. Eisenhower commented on the collaborative policy review process.

Brendan stated that he appreciated that the policy allows 9-12 grade instructors to permit cell phone use in their classroom, if it is appropriate to the instruction.

Referencing a parental concern expressed at a previous Board meeting, Ms. Gubatayao said that if written into an IEP, a special needs student could use a cell phone or similar device.

In reference to Brendan's comment, Ms. Gubatayao pointed out that allowing cell phone use in the classroom is subject to school administration's approval.

ROLL CALL

**Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE
GUBATAYAO, MATTSON, BECKER, HEUTTE, EISENHOWER, SKAN - ALL AYES**

MOTION PASSED

CONSENT CALENDAR of September 25, 2019:

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 18, 2019.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar of September 25, 2019

Moved by: HEUTTE; Second by: GUBATAYAO

ROLL CALL

**Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE
HEUTTE, MATTSON, BECKER, GUBATAYAO, EISENHOWER, SKAN - ALL AYES**

MOTION PASSED

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to adopt Resolution #20-02, a joint resolution with the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly, addressing actions of the state regarding education funding.

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: HEUTTE

Discussion

Ms. Gubatayao commented on the effectiveness of the two governing bodies coming together to address issues such as the cuts to education funding.

Mr. Eisenhower echoed the comments about collaboration. He related some remarks made by Senator Bert Stedman at the recent Southeast Conference regarding the education funding.

ROLL CALL

**Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE
MATTSON, GUBATAYAO, HEUTTE, BECKER, EISENHOWER, SKAN - ALL AYES**

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the purchase of a 3-year subscription to IXL Learning in the amount of \$59,186.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: GUBATAYAO

Friendly Amendment

Motion to change the amount to \$73,515

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: GUBATAYAO

Discussion on the Friendly Amendment

It was noted that the quote amount for the subscription had been updated to \$73,515, as more school sites had been added.

Presiding Officer Skan stated that the amendment would carry the motion.

Ms. Gubatayao commented that IXL is a comprehensive tool that will provide teachers with more knowledge about their students' performance.

ROLL CALL on amended Main Motion

**Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE
GUBATAYAO, MATTSON, HEUTTE, BECKER, EISENHOWER, SKAN - ALL AYES**

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the purchase of Arts Attack in the amount of \$13,650.

Moved by: GUBATAYAO; Second by: BECKER

Discussion

Ms. Gubatayao stated she had done some research on Arts Attack and she liked the curriculum. More art is needed at the elementary level and this is a good tool, she added.

Superintendent Lougee stated that this curriculum was already being used in the district, but its delivery mode (videos) had become outdated. Arts Attack is now available online. Ms. Lougee said she brought this to the Board for its action because it is curriculum.

ROLL CALL

Student Member Brendan Roof (preferential vote) - AYE

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

MOTION PASSED

DISCUSSION

Administrative regulations for lice: *The district nurse updated the district procedures for handling cases of lice on students. The policy committee reviewed the administrative regulations because of the in-depth procedures outlined.*

Administrative regulations for bed bugs: *Previously, there were no administrative regulations addressing bed bugs in the schools. The nurse used Health Department resources and other districts' procedures to write a process for dealing with bed bugs.*

Ketchikan Indian Community (KIC) MOU: *Both Board President Eisenhower and the Superintendent had been presented with a proposed MOU by Ketchikan Indian Community. President Eisenhower recommended referral to the Native Education Committee for review, and suggested this be done after the election. Superintendent Lougee stated that this MOU should be a consultation and collaboration between the Tribal Council and the School Board. Ms. Gubatayao announced the next meeting of the Native Education Committee would be on October 3 and this would be on the agenda.*

CITIZEN REMARKS

There were none.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Gubatayao spoke about an article she'd read about the achievements of the Success Academy, a charter school, in the Bronx. The author attributed its success to its engaged parents. Ms. Gubatayao said that her take away is that the Board needs to support parents and help parents in supporting their children.

Noting it was his last meeting as a School Board member, Mr. Heutte reflected on his term. He described the district as in crisis a year ago. The strategic planning process brought groups together to build a plan that was key to addressing that crisis, he said. Mr. Heutte stated he was gratified to be able to work with the Board, support staff, teachers, administrators, and students. Lastly, he said in the last few weeks he'd received a lot of emails from teachers crediting Superintendent Lougee for rebuilding trust in the school system.

Ms. Gubatayao told Mr. Heutte it had been an honor to serve with him and he'd contributed a lot.

Ms. Skan commented that he had been an honorable person from the beginning, when he originally withdrew as a candidate for appointment to the Board, deferring to Ms. Mattson.

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Mr. Eisenhower also stated his appreciation for Mr. Heutte's service and his ability to step up and serve during a tough time.

Ms. Gubatayao thanked Teresa Varnell for her report that evening; and said it was exciting for the district to start being more proactive and attentive to the cultural standards.

Motion to move into executive session for the purpose of hearing and deciding on a student conduct issue, a matter in which the Board is acting as an adjudicatory body performing a quasi-judicial function.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: BECKER

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION PASSED

Executive session

The Board entered the executive session at approximately 7:17 p.m. The session ended at 7:49 p.m. and the Board reconvened in regular session.

Motion to approve the eligibility reinstatement for AASA-sponsored athletics or activities for the student who was the subject of the executive session.

Moved by: HEUTTE; Second by: GUBATAYAO

ROLL CALL

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

ADVANCE PLANNING/ADJOURNMENT

After upcoming Board meeting dates were noted, a motion was made and seconded for adjournment. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Minutes approved as distributed at the October 9, 2019 regular meeting of the Board of Education.

BOARD PRESIDENT
Matt Eisenhower