

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL meeting of  
Thursday, January 27, 2022  
Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers**

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

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in special session on the 27th day of January, 2022, in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers. Board President Stephen Bradford called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. *(The meeting was scheduled to start at 5 p.m., but was delayed slightly to prepare the Zoom set up for the consultant.)*

The following members were present to establish a quorum and due notice had been published: Board President Stephen Bradford; Board Vice President Keenan Sanderson; Board Clerk-Treasurer Bridget Mattson; and Board Members Diane Gubatayao; Jordan Tabb; Paul Robbins Jr.; and Nicole Anderson.

Board Clerk Kerry Watson and Human Resources Manager Tiffany Batura were also present.

**Purpose of special meeting**

President Stephen Bradford stated that the purpose for the meeting was the resumption of the permanent superintendent search and to select finalists. JoAnn Bukovich of the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) facilitated the meeting, participating via Zoom.

**CITIZEN REMARKS**

There were no citizens present.

**Finalist selection process**

JoAnn (Henderson) Bukovich introduced herself, noting she had worked with the Board last summer in its launch of the superintendent search. The process had suspended by the Board in hopes of attracting a more robust applicant turnout, she added. The application process began again in December and closed two weeks ago. Eight candidates had applied, she reported.

Ms. Bukovich explained that day's agenda which would result in selection of finalists for superintendent; also noting the portions that would occur in executive session, such as hearing background check information on applicants. She asked whether it was the Board's preference to have in person interviews versus virtual interviews. It was the consensus of the Board that its preference was to conduct in-person interviews. An earlier determined timeframe for in-person interviews (during the dates of February 8-10) was also confirmed.

She then stated the Board would need to move into executive session for the discussion of the applicants, to hear background information, and to discuss interview questions.

**Motion to move into executive session to discuss the finalists for the superintendent position, a personnel matter, and also a discussion which would have an adverse effect upon the finances of the school district.**

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: SANDERSON

**ROLL CALL**

**SANDERSON, MATTSON, GUBATAYAO, ROBBINS, TABB, ANDERSON, BRADFORD - ALL AYES**

**MOTION PASSED**

The Board entered the Executive Session at about 5:25 p.m. The Executive Session ended at about 7:54 p.m. and the Board came back into regular session.

**Motion to ask AASB to contact Greg Fowler, Melissa Johnson and Michael Robbins to set up semi-finalist interviews via Zoom for Monday, Jan 31, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.**

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: SANDERSON

**ROLL CALL**

**SANDERSON, ANDERSON, TABB, ROBBINS, GUBATAYAO, MATTSON, BRADFORD - ALL AYES**

***MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY***

President Bradford announced it was the intent of the Board to hold virtual interviews, as just reflected in the Board's action; and possible in-person interviews in Ketchikan over the dates of February 7, 8 or 9. The in-person process would include the community and other stakeholders. He also stated the board had worked on questions for the Monday night zoom interviews and also for the in-person interviews during its executive session. The questions would remain confidential until the interview time. Mr. Bradford also stated that information on the other applicants would remain confidential. The Board will work with AASB to provide as much information on the candidates in the public interest as possible, stated President Bradford.

Ms. Mattson asked for some additional discussion of the details for the in-person interviews. Discussion ensued on the schedule for the in-person visits, stakeholder participation, and whether a decision on a superintendent selection would be made at the February 9, 2022 regular Board meeting. Human Resources Manager Tiffany Batura provided some advice during the discussion, as did Ms. Bukovich.

After some discussion, it was agreed to plan for an executive session at the February 9 School Board meeting to review collated feedback from the candidate interviews; with a special meeting on February 10, if needed, for a superintendent decision to be completed.

President Bradford announced again the finalists' names and their current positions: Dr. Gregory Fowler, whose current position is as interim superintendent and principal of Rite of Passage Southwest Leadership Academy High School in Arizona; Melissa Johnson, whose current position is as interim superintendent for the Ketchikan school district; and Michael Robbins, whose current position is as site administrator of Toksook Bay/Nelson Island Bay in Toksook Bay, Alaska.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m., without objection.

*Minutes approved as distributed at the February 9, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of Education.*

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BOARD PRESIDENT  
Stephen Bradford