

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING and WORK SESSION
Regular Meeting of
June 12, 2024
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 12th day of June 2024, in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers. Board President Stephen Bradford 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: Present members included President Stephen Bradford, Vice President Keenan Sanderson, Clerk-Treasurer Nicole Anderson, Members Judy Leask Guthrie, Tom Huette and Melissa O'Bryan. Member Katherine Tatsuda was absent.

Administrative staff present included Superintendent Michael Robbins, Special Education Director Sally Stockhausen, and School Board Clerk Chloe Hall.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no objections to the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

President Bradford shared a Pride Month Proclamation.

CITIZEN REMARKS

Christy Johnson, Ketchikan resident, shared concerns with how grant money is being spent.

Dr. Valerie Brooks, Ketchikan resident and former teacher, spoke on the importance of the RTI program at Revilla High School.

Elizabeth Jones, Ketchikan resident, asked clarifying questions about agenda items.

Elizabeth Jones shared a letter from Tiffany Cook, Ketchikan resident, urging the board to fund activities.

Lisa Pearson, Ketchikan resident, shared her thoughts on the Administrative positions being cut.

Aime Toepfer, Ketchikan resident, shared her thoughts on where the Board should make cuts.

Caity Pearson, Ketchikan resident, shared her thoughts on the activities programs offered at Ketchikan High School.

Amber Williams-Baldwin, Ketchikan resident, shared her thoughts on the Custodial and Maintenance department cuts.

David Garcia, Counselor at Fawn Mountain Elementary, spoke on the importance of preschool and counseling positions in the district.

Ali Ginter, Ketchikan resident, shared frustrations on funding and transparency from the Board and District.

Sharyl Yeisley, Ketchikan resident, shared budget concerns and thoughts on where cuts should be made.

Penny Leighton, Ketchikan resident and former teacher, advocated for a stronger ELL program in the district.

Ahl'lidaaw Gitnack'arseak, Ketchikan resident, shared her concerns on the funding of preschools in the district. She also thanked the Board for the Pride Proclamation.

Cara Wallace, Ketchikan resident, urged the Board to fund both IEA Preschools and the Cultural Coordinator position.

Charles Peele, Saxman resident, spoke on the importance of IEA Preschool programs and the cultural coordinator position.

Sophia Pilgrim, Student at Ketchikan High School, shared thoughts on the importance of activities in the district, preschool, and transparency from the Board and District.

Vanessa Bruns, Ketchikan resident, advocated for the preschool program at the Ketchikan Pioneer Home.

Sheri Boehlert, Principal at Schoenbar Middle School, spoke on the importance of RTI positions at Schoenbar.

Peter Epler, Ketchikan resident, shared his thoughts on the importance of the district preschool program

Mike Weston, Ketchikan resident, voiced his opinion on the importance of the preschool program.

Carlos Weimer, Tribal Council Executive Assistant, shared a letter from Norman Skan, sharing his thoughts on how Title 6 funds are being spent.

Rick Dormer, Principal at Ketchikan High School, shared his hopes that the Board will continue to work with the Superintendent and building level administrators to create the best District possible.

Lisa Dewitt, spoke as the Chair of the Ketchikan Native Education Committee, and shared a letter from the Ketchikan Native Education parent committee, sharing concerns over the potential to cut an IEA preschool, or the Cultural Coordinator position.

Lisa Dewitt, Ketchikan resident, spoke positively as a parent on the updates to the Social Studies Curriculum that is up for review.

Markel Wallace, Ketchikan resident, shared her thoughts on the importance of the IEA preschool program and the Cultural Coordinator position.

Brittany Brown, Ketchikan resident and paraprofessional at Fawn Mountain Elementary, voiced her concerns about housing preschool in one building.

Terri Schultz, Special Education teacher at Ketchikan Charter School, spoke on the funding the district receives for Special Needs students.

Theresa Heitman, Paraprofessional at Fawn Mountain Elementary, advocated to keep a counseling position and the preschool program at Fawn Mountain.

Vicki O'Brien, Ketchikan resident, shared concerns about positions and programs that have the potential to be cut.

Martha Thomas, Ketchikan resident, voiced concerns about cutting the Spanish language program at Ketchikan High School.

Diane Gubatayao, Ketchikan resident, shared her thoughts and ideas on potential ways for the district to receive additional funding.

Katrina Monta, Teacher at Point Higgins Elementary, asked clarifying questions on teacher placements for the 2024-25 school year. Superintendent Michael Robbins answered her questions on how staffing decisions are made.

Candice Airington, Ketchikan resident, shared her thoughts on the importance of the IEA preschool program at Fawn Mountain Elementary.

Steve Thomas, Ketchikan resident, voiced his support of funding the IEA Preschool at Fawn Mountain Elementary.

Kim SImpson, Ketchikan resident, shared thoughts and ideas about ways the District could explore additional funding.

Sharyl Yeisley, Ketchikan resident, asked clarifying questions about how Sped money is spent in the district.

Motion to extend to 10:30 p.m.

M/S SANDERSON/GUTHRIE

No Objections

The Board entered recess at 9:00 p.m.

The Board was back from recess at 9:08 p.m.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Claims of May 24, 2024, no objection, CLAIMS APPROVED

REPORTS- Superintendent Report

Superintendent Robbins thanked the community for support he received during a recent leave for medical care, apologized to the 2024 graduates for missing graduation, and congratulated Jason Lorig, student at Ketchikan High School, who set the state record for the 100 Meter Dash.

Superintendent Robbins spoke on the budget, and what programs and positions potential additional funding will cover.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. Motion to approve the special meeting minutes of May 13, 2024.
- b. Motion to approve offering of Non-tenured Certified Contracts for the 2024-25 School Year.

M/S: ANDERSON/HEUTTE

ROLL CALL: SANDERSON, GUTHRIE, O'BRYAN, ANDERSON, HEUTTE, BRADFORD

6 YES

CONSENT CALENDAR APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Motion for the Board of Education to approve the revised Social Studies Curriculum.

M/S: SANDERSON/GUTHRIE

DISCUSSION: Superintendent Robbins shared that the Social Studies Curriculum Committee met four times over the school year, and polled parents and community members for input. Fifty five parents and community members took part in the poll. Superintendent Robbins shared some of the large changes to the curriculum, and that these changes would take place for the class of 2026. Vice President Keenan Sanderson, shared that it was a large priority for the committee to emphasize Indigenous Studies.

ROLL CALL: ANDERSON, O'BRYAN, SANDERSON, GUTHRIE, HEUTTE, BRADFORD

6 YES

MOTION APPROVED

- b. Administrative Positions FY25

DISCUSSION: President Bradford shared the administrative positions that would be cut. Board Members and Superintendent Robbins discussed concerns with the administrative cuts. President Bradford instructed Superintendent Robbins to proceed with the plan.

DISCUSSION

- a. FY 2024-2025 BUDGET

Work Session entered at 9:59 p.m.

The Board discussed the 2024-2025 Budget with Superintendent Robbins and other administrative staff present. The Board discussed with Superintendent Robbins the additional funding they would be requesting from the Borough, and what the funding would be used for.

The work session ended at 10:38 p.m.

Motion to approve a request of the Borough for an additional 2.4 Million to cover expected costs of paraprofessionals, activities, IEA Preschool, 3 RTI/MTSS teachers, 1 ELL teacher.

M/S: BRADFORD/SANDERSON

ROLL CALL: O'BRYAN, HEUTTE, ANDERSON, GUTHRIE, SANDERSON, BRADFORD

6 YES

MOTION PASSED

President Bradford asked the Board if there was four hands direction for Superintendent Robbins to continue in discussions with Borough staff to possibly make slight modifications to the MOA. There were 6 hands raised.

President Bradford asked the Board if there were any objections to deferring item 12, which includes four policies up for revision, to the next regularly scheduled meeting on June 26, 2024. There were no objections.

BOARD COMMENTS

Member O'Bryan shared that she had toured the potential early learning center for next year. She spoke about how pleased she was with the space and facilities available.

Vice President Sanderson urged community members to write to their legislators for additional funding.

ADVANCE PLANNING

- a. School Board regular meeting and/or work session Wednesday June 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Borough Assembly Chambers

ADJOURNMENT at 10:49 p.m.



BOARD PRESIDENT

Stephen Bradford