

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular meeting of November 13, 2019

CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in regular session on the 13th day of November, 2019, in the Ketchikan Borough Assembly Chambers. Board President Matt Eisenhower 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 Matt Eisenhower; Board Vice-President Bridget Mattson; Clerk-Treasurer Diane Gubatayao; Board Members Sonya Skan, Rachel Breithaupt; Leslie Becker; and Jordan Tabb. Student Brendan Roof was also present.

Administrative staff consisted of Beth Lougee, Superintendent; and Clerk to the Board Kerry Watson.

Other district staff included: Technology Director Bill Whicker; Tongass School of Arts and Sciences Principal Marian Gonzales; and Maintenance Director Richard McAlpin.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Alaska Native American Indian Heritage Month Proclamation: Board President Matt Eisenhower read a proclamation for Alaska Native American Indian Heritage Month; and thanked Board Member Sonya Skan for helping with its preparation.

Experienced Boardmanship Award to Matt Eisenhower: Superintendent Beth Lougee announced that Matt Eisenhower had received the Carl Rose Experienced Boardmanship award from the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB). The association issues various levels of boardmanship for participation in AASB conferences and trainings.

Board Member Diane Gubatayao recognized fellow Board Member Bridget Mattson and the youth actors Neila Urquhart, Connor Wodehouse and Oliver Wutzke for their performances in the play "The Secret Garden."

Ms. Gubatayao also noted an event she'd attended that day as part of *Alaska Native American Indian Heritage Month* at the University of Alaska-Southeast, Ketchikan campus. The documentary film "The Bear Stands Up" about the late Esther Shea was shown.

CITIZEN REMARKS

Lisa Dewitt-Narino and Natasha Clevenger introduced themselves in their Native languages, giving their traditional names and lineage, and then translating. Ms. Dewitt-Narino invited the Board to the Ketchikan Indian Community's Alaska Native Language Summit on December 9-12 at the Ted Ferry Civic Center. She noted that both she and Ms. Clevenger work with the Tlingit language at KIC and have been sharing the language in the schools through the district's cultural resource program.

Rensheil Bickford expressed her concern with the level of special education services she said is being provided to her intensive needs child at Houghtaling Elementary School. She listed the various disabilities and medical conditions which she said qualifies her child for individual (one-on-one) services, which she indicated she is not receiving. Ms. Bickford said there has not been a consistent paraprofessional assigned to her child this year; and services are being denied. She has now pulled her child out of school, she said. In making her statements, Ms. Bickford read from, and distributed, an email she said she'd sent to Board members the night before.

INFORMATION & REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Policy Committee - It was noted that the Policy Committee would meet the next day.

Other Reports - Board President Eisenhower said he and the Superintendent had been invited to meet with the KIC Tribal Council. He anticipates further discussion regarding a MOU between the district and KIC that is being drafted.

Jordan Tabb reported on the district's Safety Committee meeting that he and Board Member Leslie Becker attended. The group reviewed the district's safety policy and procedures that are being developed. The committee will meet again in two weeks.

Sonya Skan stated her appreciation for being able to attend the Association of Alaska School Boards Annual Conference. She commented on a keynote speaker from Boston who spoke about family engagement. Ms. Skan also noted that through a grant with the Office of Indian Education, AASB is working with various school districts around the state and will be in Ketchikan just prior to the KIC Language Summit.

REPORTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS – SUPERINTENDENT/STAFF:

In her report, Superintendent Beth Lougee highlighted student success and how the school improvement process - STEPP- ties into that success. This school year, education consultant Todd White has been providing training on the evaluation system to district teachers and administrators with the goal to increase their effectiveness, she said. The district is considering training all staff on the evaluation system next year, said Superintendent Lougee. She also celebrated the fact that Ketchikan Charter School has been nominated for a national Title I award. The nomination is based on the school closing its achievement gaps as shown by PEAKS scores. The superintendent said KCS principal Kayla Livingston was instrumental in that effort, as formerly she was the school's RTI instructor.

Tongass School of Arts and Sciences Annual Report

Tongass School of Arts and Sciences Principal Marian Gonzales presented the school's annual report, emphasizing its work on annual goals. TSAS has been using the Highly Effective Teaching model since the school's inception in 2003; and this year some TSAS staff traveled to Kenai to observe another HET school in action, said Ms. Gonzales. She said the group was impressed with how the Kaleidoscope school used the Conscious Discipline program; and TSAS has begun implementing some of that program as a way to strengthen its trauma-informed practices and social emotional support. Principal Gonzales proposed that TSAS be a pilot school for Conscious Discipline in the district.

Regarding other school goals, a major remodel of the entrance to TSAS is planned to increase safety. A second secure entrance will be added to better control access to the school. Director of Maintenance Richard McAlpin briefly explained the timeline for the project, with March 2020 the target for awarding the construction contract. Moving on to address academics, Ms. Gonzales said the school is using a new ELA (English Language Arts) program to address low scores in the "text dependent analysis" portion of PEAKS. The school also had a goal to enhance cultural sharing and cultural ties. Kevin Clevenger spent a year as an artist in residence providing Native cultural instruction as part of that goal. To end the presentation, the Board and audience were invited to participate in dancing and singing a Tlingit chant gifted to the school by Cultural Resource teacher Teresa Varnell.

Technology Update

Bill Whicker, Technology Director, gave a report on the numerous activities and services conducted by the technology department. At the beginning of the school year, technology staff updated more than 800 machines to be ready for use by 7-12 grade students. Meanwhile, replacing teacher machines is on a five-year rotational plan, said Mr. Whicker, with about \$50,000 spent annually on those replacements. Because Apples are becoming pricey and technology changes quickly, the department is testing various types of machines and platforms for these replacements. Other topics included under his report were: how his staff would deal with improper use of technology by students; the use of electronic signatures is being tested out, starting with parents at the high school and middle school level; student registration has been transformed from a paper process to online registration by Information Specialist Chasina Worman; and that she has also launched the program Schoolzilla which pulls data out of Powerschool. Lastly, Mr. Whicker described a product called "Neverware" that turns old machines into Chrome devices that can be managed by the district. This was initiated by the department's Matt Beimler.

Student Board Member Report: Student Board Member Brendan Roof said the focus for his report was opportunities and being thankful. He highlighted and explained how he felt about Kayhi's American Government class and highlighted the recent Mock Congress held as part of the class. He reported briefly on some activities and events, including the recent Bill Weiss Wrestling Tournament and the participation of the Student Body Association Executive officers in the American Legion Veterans Day event. Lastly, he described a new way for students to get involved in their school through the "advisory representative plan."

Brendan was excused from the meeting at the conclusion of his report.

CONSENT CALENDAR of November 13, 2019

- *Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 23, 2019.*

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar of November 13, 2019

Moved by: TABB; Second by: MATTSON

ROLL CALL

BECKER, TABB, MATTSON, BREITHAUPT, GUBATAYAO, SKAN, EISENHOWER – ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to approve the contract agreement renewal for FY20-24 with Siemens Advantage Services for facilities and maintenance system monitoring and technical support.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: BREITHAUPT

Discussion

Maintenance Director Richard McAlpin answered Board member questions and provided background on this contract. The district has been in business with Siemens for about 20 years and its software and technology are embedded throughout the district, he said. Ms. Becker stated she was leery about the auto renew clause that "locks" in the district to another year. Mr. McAlpin said the district was aware of the clause. In response to a question about the company as a sole source vendor, he reiterated that the Siemens systems are imbedded in the district from HVAC to security at all the buildings. The district has a good working relationship with Siemens, he added.

President Eisenhower suggested a friendly amendment to add the contract amount into the motion. It was pointed out that because the contract was for FY20-24, the total cost for all those years should be reflected in the motion.

Amendment Motion

Motion to amend to add: " to remain in effect for 5 years, beginning 7-1-2019 and from year to year thereafter, at the annual amounts listed in the document (4.1, of the signature page of the contract).

(Attached to these minutes as reference.)

Moved by: EISENHOWER; Second by: BECKER

President Eisenhower stated that if approved the amendment would carry the motion.

ROLL CALL

SKAN, BREITHAUPT, MATTSON, BECKER, GUBATAYAO, TABB, EISENHOWER – ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

Motion to approve the transfer of funds to student activities accounts in the amount of \$63,175 to Football, \$12,848 to Boys' Soccer, \$5,375 to Boys Basketball and \$5,009 to Volleyball, from Kayhi's miscellaneous, vending, and concessions funds, respectively.

Moved by: TABB; Second by: MATTSON

Discussion

Superintendent Lougee explained the background of this action coming to the Board. She said that she and Business Manager Katie Parrott have been scrutinizing these activities accounts and how they are funded, after the deficit in some of the activity programs became apparent. The district's policies regarding fund transfers requires Board approval if above a certain amount; but the Superintendent felt the Board should be apprised of this issue regardless. In response to Ms. Becker's question, Ms. Lougee said the large deficit in the football account seemed to come about when the district changed leagues. Board member Rachel Breithaupt suggested that deficits might need to be addressed in administrative regulation. Superintendent Lougee replied that it is simply good practice to not let the accounts run a deficit and to match revenue to expenditures. This will be an expectation moving forward, said Ms. Lougee.

ROLL CALL

MATTSON, BREITHAUPT, GUBATAYAO, BECKER, SKAN, TABB, EISENHOWER – ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

DISCUSSION

Update on Board Policy 6146 - High School Graduation Requirements. *Discussion has been ongoing on various aspects of graduation requirements including social studies requirements, the health curriculum, and CTE and elective credits. Input from parents will be sought.*

January 17, 2020 Tentative Joint Worksession with the Borough Assembly: Several Boardmembers commented on the importance and significance of this worksession.

Association of Alaska School Boards training opportunities. *Information had been provided on some upcoming AASB events.*

CITIZEN REMARKS

There were none.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Mattson commented on a Houghtaling PBIS assembly the previous week which was focused on "be kind." She said Houghtaling is now recognizing outstanding classes, rather than individual students.

Ms. Breithaupt remarked that she preferred this new emphasis as it was more inclusive.

Ms. Gubatayao said she appreciated the TSAS report, and the chanting and drumming. She suggested a future discussion regarding the piloting of the Conscious Discipline program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Evaluation of the Superintendent: Motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation, a subject which may tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion.

Moved by: MATTSON; Second by: SKAN

ROLL CALL

SKAN, MATTSON, GUBATAYAO, BREITHAUPT, BECKER, TABB, EISENHOWER – ALL AYES

MOTION PASSED

The Executive Session began at about 7:55. At about 8:30, the Board came out of executive session and re-entered open session. President Eisenhower announced that the Board would need 20 more minutes of closed session. The Board re-entered Executive Session with Superintendent Lougee participating at that point.

At 8:50 p.m., the Board ended its Executive Session and re-entered its regular session.

President Eisenhower announced that the evaluation of the Superintendent had been completed in the session.

ADJOURNMENT

Some future dates were noted before a motion was made and seconded for adjournment. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Minutes approved as distributed at the December 11, 2019, regular meeting of the Board of Education.

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD
Matt Eisenhower