

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
Meeting of
Wednesday January 18, 2023
Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers**

CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Board of Education met in a special session on the 18th Day of January 2023, in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers. Board President Stephen Bradford called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

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 Nicole Anderson Board Members Diane Gubatayao, Tom Heutte, and Paul Robbins, Jr. Board Member Melissa O'Bryan had an excused absence.

Administrative staff present included Superintendent Michael Robbins, Interim Business Manager David Means, and School Board Clerk Crystal Vail.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no objections to the agenda as presented.

CITIZEN REMARKS

Grant Echohawk, Ketchikan resident, shared his personal views regarding the budgetary decisions facing the district. He asked the Board to make decisions that are well articulated, well thought out and implemented well with minimal impact on children. He also asked the Board to let the community know how they can help.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Motion to reconsider the Motion to Commit, as adopted at the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2023.

M/S: Bradford/Gubatayao

Discussion:

Bradford commented on his previous motion to commit, explaining why he was asking for reconsideration. Reconsidering this motion would allow further exploration of the Borough/District MOA Regarding District Health Insurance Deficit.

No further discussion

ROLL CALL:

6 YES- ANDERSON, HEUTTE, GUBATAYAO, ROBBINS, JR., SANDERSON, BRADFORD
MOTION TO RECONSIDER APPROVED

President Bradford explained that the approval of the reconsideration brings back the original Motion to Commit. He presented options to the Board to vote again on the motion, amend the motion, present a new motion or have a discussion.

After no Board discussion, President Bradford made a motion.

Motion:

Motion to table this matter [the Borough-School District MOA regarding the District Health Insurance Fund Deficit] until the regular meeting scheduled for January 25, 2023 and direct staff to work with the district's attorney and with Borough staff on any recommendations necessary to address all remaining concerns of either the Borough or the School District on this matter.

M/S: Bradford/Anderson

Discussion:

Member Robbins, Jr. asked a question regarding the process of voting down the original motion to make a new motion. After some board discussion, President Bradford ruled as the chair confirming the consensus of the Board to go forward with the motion to table the matter, including direction to staff.

President Bradford added that his discussions with Borough and District staff and attorneys indicate that most of the objections raised by the district attorney have been resolved.

Member Gubatayo clarified that Board members would still have an opportunity to express their recommendations for changes in the MOA to staff. She then spoke to a specific item on the MOA that she would be sending concerns about, concerning funding options. She reminded the board that agreeing to an MOA affects future School Boards in Ketchikan.

No other Board discussion.

President Bradford re-read the motion.

ROLL CALL:

6 YES- GUBATAYAO, ROBBINS, JR., ANDERSON, SANDERSON, HEUTTE, BRADFORD

MOTION APPROVED

- b. Motion to move into a work session regarding the preliminary assumptions and parameters for the FY 2024 District Operating Budget, with possible motions and/or direction to staff and/or Liaison Committee members.

ROLL CALL:

6 YES- ANDERSON, ROBBINS, JR., HEUTTE, GUBATAYAO, SANDERSON, BRADFORD

MOTION APPROVED

WORK SESSION began at 5:44 p.m.

The Board discussed budget assumptions that had been shared by the District and shared with the Borough by President Bradford at the Borough Assembly meeting. President Bradford expressed the need for the budget to be conservative and accurate.

The Board discussed the process of budgeting for District Health Insurance, paying back the deficit and suggested staff be creative when deciding how to balance the upcoming year's budget.

With no objections, the work session ended at 6:01 p.m.

President Bradford asked for and received 4 hands direction for District Staff to:

- a. Accelerate the normal calendar timeline for preparing and presenting the budget to the public.
- b. During the January 25th, 2023 Regular meeting of the School Board, provide some preliminary indications of a balanced budget and what cuts will be necessary to meet the fiscal assumptions that have been discussed

The Board discussed with Superintendent Robbins they would like staff to provide guidance on various potential budget cuts for FY 2024. Superintendent Robbins expressed that staff had already started those discussions.

BOARD COMMENTS

Member Gubatayao thanked Michael Johnson, of First Student, for a smooth start to the year in transportation of students. She also commented on the Board's trip to Metlakatla and thanked the Annette Island School District for inviting and welcoming the Board.

Member Heutte thanked the Annette Island School District for meeting with the Board and showing their facilities and thanked District staff for working on the accelerated budget timeline.

Member Robbins, Jr. stated he is ready for the budget process to begin and hopes staff and the public will come to the Board with suggestions to help move decisions forward.

Member Sanderson echoed Member Robbins, Jr.'s comments.

President Bradford reported information concerning the Tribal Values Trial.

With no objections, ADJOURNMENT at 6:11 p.m.

BOARD PRESIDENT
Stephen Bradford