

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD  
AT GUDANGAAY TLAATS'GAA NAAY SCHOOL and Via TEAMS  
TUESDAY, April 16, 2024**

**PRESENT WERE:** Roeland Denooij, Vice-Chair  
Ashley Currie, Trustee  
Wilson Brown, Trustee  
Miranda Post, Trustee

**ALSO PRESENT:** Manu Madhok, Interim Superintendent  
Kevin Black, Secretary-Treasurer (via Teams)  
Maureen Benoit, Human Resources Manager

**ABSENT WAS:** Dana Moraes, Chair

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (Via Teams):**

Merle Andersen	Tammy Gates	Lief Morton
Candace Weir	Sian Nalleweg	Riley Duke
Jaskwaan Bedard	Annie Smith	Makayla Hill
Sherry Hanna	Lao Peerless	Max Gomez-Bull
Joanne Yovanovich	Steve Goffic	

**1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HAIDA TERRITORY**

Vice-Chair Denooij respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was held on the unceded and traditional territory of the Haida Nation.

**2. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Denooij called the meeting to order at 1808 hours.

**3. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 invited members of the public to address agenda items during the Public Question Period.

-No questions brought forward

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The April 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Agenda was reviewed and approved by Trustees with the addition of a presentation on class size and composition under the Superintendent's Update.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PRIOR MEETING AND RECEIPT OF RECORDS OF CLOSED MEETINGS

5.1 – February 20, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

R24041601 MOTION BY: Trustee Brown  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Post

THAT the Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 approve the February 20, 2024 Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented.

## MOTION CARRIED

5.2 – April 16, 2024 In-Camera Rise and Report

R24041602 MOTION BY: Trustee Post  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Brown

THAT the Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 reported that property, personnel, and pupil matters were discussed at the April 16, 2024 In-Camera Meeting.

## MOTION CARRIED

## 6. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

## 6.1 – Naming Committee Presentation: Jaskwaan Bedard, Candace Weir, Merle Andersen and Principal Ian Keir

Candace Weir began the presentation by calling on the energy of the ancestors to help everyone come together as will happen in September in the amalgamated school. Jaskwaan Bedard presented the naming committee's united decision that the name of the K-12 school be Daaxiigan Skadaa Née, meaning 'noise in the house pit' and added it should be used in its full form when referenced. The committee expressed how empowering it is to come to a school named for a Haida person, and while several Haida people carry the name Daaxiigan, Daaxiigan Skadaa Née refers to Charles Edenshaw. The committee requested the Edenshaw name be acknowledged with a plaque at the front of the school. Vice-Chair Denooij thanked the committee for their dedication and work.

R24041603 MOTION BY: Trustee Post  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Currie

THAT the Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 accept the naming committee's recommendation of the new name for the K-12 School, Daaxiigan Skadaa Née.

#### MOTION CARRIED

##### 6.2 – K'aayxada (Moresby Mountain) Adventure Camp 2024 Trips

Etchi Maleski and Vice Principal Cal Westbrook shared a presentation on the outdoor education programming offered at the newly renamed K'aayxada Adventure Camp (formerly Mount Moresby Adventure Camp - MMAC). Vice Principal Westbrook acknowledged Paula Varnell for helping the society through the name change process and Guustlas Rorick for the new logo. Vice Principal Westbrook asked for a commitment from the Haida Gwaii School District to continue providing program funding to the camp.

##### 6.3 – Amalgamation Update

Principal Ian Keir provided an update on the progress of the Amalgamation Committee's work on the transition to the K-12 school. The full transcript forms parts of these minutes.

The committee asked the District for a budget for food, gifts, etc. to help mark the ceremony. Vice-Chair Denooij and Interim Superintendent Madhok acknowledged the extra challenges the Gudangaay Tlaats'gaa Naay staff has had and to endure over the past couple of years.

##### 6.1 – McCreary Research

Student Trustees Morton and Duke along with Daris, Max, River, Makayla and Lesane reported on their work with the McCreary Centre Society. The students identified key focus areas for the Adolescent Health Survey, compiled and analyzed data from GidGalang Kuuyas Naay and Gudangaay Tlaats'gaa Naay, and shared their findings.

#### 7. CHAIR REPORT

Vice-Chair Denooij reported on Trustee activity, specifically attendance at the BCSTA conference, PAC meetings and budget meetings.

#### 8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

##### 8.1 – Superintendent's Update

Interim Superintendent Madhok presented his monthly report to the Board as included in the meeting agenda package. Superintendent Madhok provided a brief update on the Ministry of Education and Child Care's (MECC) Remote and Rural placement incentive program. The Haida Gwaii School District currently has three UBC students completing practicums in our schools. Interim Superintendent Madhok mentioned that the Honouring Haida Language initiative being shared by Jaskwaan Bedard and her team is very well received and there is a link available on the District's website. In addition, Interim Superintendent Madhok shared a

presentation on class size and composition as requested by the Board at the February meeting.

### 8.2 – Student Trustee Update

Student Trustee Lief Morton and Riley Duke reported on GidGalang Kuuyas Naay Secondary School's senior boys' basketball team's second place win at the provincial tournament. Four students from the team have been invited to play on the BC Basketball team. Rugby, track and field, girls' soccer as well as island soccer have all started. GidGalang Kuuyas Naay Secondary's Grade 11 class is currently on the University tour and McCreary Centre Society Adolescent Survey was very successful.

## 9. INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

Interim Superintendent Madhok previously reported on the success of the Honouring Haida Language initiative under item 8.1. and informed Trustees of the upcoming Haida Education Committee (HEC) meeting in May.

## 10. STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

### 10.1 – Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

Trustee Brown read Bill 41 Article 33.

### 10.2 – BCSTA Update

Trustee Currie shared that the BCSTA AGM begins Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Currie, Vice-Chair Denooij and Secretary-Treasurer Black will attend.

### 10.3 – BCPSEA update

Trustee Post reported that BCPSEA announced a revised fee model for the Coordinated Legal & Arbitration Support Services (CLASS). Though not a BCPSEA update, BCSTA North West Leadership Series is May 11, Trustee Post will be in attendance.

### 10.4 – Section 2: Haida Culture, Expectations, Communications & Engagement

Interim Superintendent Madhok presented the revised policy manual Section 2: Haida Culture, Expectations, Communications & Engagement now ready for public feedback.

R24041604

MOTION BY: Trustee Post

SECONDED BY: Trustee Brown

THAT the Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 circulate the Draft Section 2: Haida Culture, Expectations, Communications & Engagement of the District policy manual as presented for public feedback.

MOTION CARRIED  
R24041605 MOTION BY: Trustee Post  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Brown

THAT the Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 extend the April 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting beyond 2003 hours

MOTION CARRIED

10.5 Policy G.4 Utilization of Properties by General Public  
Interim Superintendent Madhok reported that no feedback was received on the amended Policy G.4 -Utilization of Properties by General Public.

THAT the Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 adopt Policy G.4: Utilization of Properties out for circulation as presented.

R24041606 MOTION BY: Trustee Brown  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Currie

MOTION CARRIED

## 11. OPERATIONS

### 11.1 – Operations Update

IT Manager Goffic reported the District received Special Initiative Projects funding for an upgrade to the public address (PA) system at Sk'aadgaa Naay and the phone system at Port Clements Elementary. However, Mr. Goffic is optimistic he will be able to upgrade the phone system district-wide. Manager of Operations Peerless reported on other Special Initiative Projects: an HVAC upgrades at Gudangaay Tlaats'gaa Naay and for the Port Clements Elementary gymnasium. Mr. Peerless also reported upgrades at all the school kitchens thanks to the Food Infrastructure Program funding. The Masset Schools project is almost complete and the District broke ground on the new daycare in Masset.

### 11.2 – February and March 2024 Financial Vouchers & Trustee Expenditures

R24041607 MOTION BY: Trustee Brown

SECONDED BY: Trustee Post

THAT the Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 receive and file the February and March 2024 Financial Vouchers and Trustee Expenditures as presented.

## MOTION CARRIED

### 11.3 – Board Authorized and Approved Courses

Interim Superintendent Madhok thanked Teachers Ruben Jatel and Christine Cunningham for developing these courses.

R24041608 MOTION BY: Trustee Currie  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Post

THAT the Haida Gwaii Board of Education of School District No. 50 approve the Board Authorized Courses: Peer Tutoring 11/12 at Gidgalang Kuuyas Naay and Leadership 11/12 at Gudangaay Tlaats'qaa Naay as presented.

## MOTION CARRIED

## 11.4 – Budget Presentation Update

Secretary-Treasurer Black provided a brief update on the budget presentation held April 3, 2024. The next presentation will be held on May 1, 2024 at 5:30pm. Questions regarding targeted fund and Indigenous Educational Council funding were brought forward at the April meeting. District Principal of Indigenous Education Joanne Yovanovich will be joining the budget presentation meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## 11.5 – Summary of Operation Grant Comparison

Secretary-Treasurer Black presented a comparison of the operation grant as included in the agenda meeting package.

## 11.6 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Operating Grant Financial Update

Secretary-Treasurer Black presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Operating Grant Financial Update as included in the agenda meeting package and noted that Professional Development & Travel looks like it is sitting at 125% due to a change in recording practice only.

## 11.7 – Capital Bylaws

Secretary-Treasurer Black reported on the District's Five-Year Capital Plan submissions that received confirmation from Ministry of Education and Child Care.

R24041609

MOTION BY: Trustee Brown  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Currie

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 50 (Haida Gwaii) adopt the Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD50-01 be given first reading.

MOTION CARRIED

R24041610

MOTION BY: Trustee Post  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Brown

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 50 (Haida Gwaii) adopt the Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD50-01 be given second reading.

MOTION CARRIED

R24041611

MOTION BY: Trustee Currie  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Brown

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 50 (Haida Gwaii) unanimously agree that Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD50-01 be given third and final reading at the April 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

R24041612

MOTION BY: Trustee Currie  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Post

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 50 (Haida Gwaii) adopt the Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD50-01 be given third and final reading.

MOTION CARRIED

#### 11.8 – Auditor Appointment

Secretary-Treasurer Black reported that the request for proposal for auditor services was issued and reviewed and recommends Vohora LLP for a three-year term.

R24041613

MOTION BY: Trustee Brown  
SECONDED BY: Trustee Currie

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 50 (Haida Gwaii) appoint Vohora LLP, CPAs & Business Advisors for a three-year term from 2023/24 to 2025/26.

MOTION CARRIED

**11.9 – School Naming Committee**

This item was covered under agenda item 6.1.

**11.10 – School Calendar Information 2026-27**

Interim Superintendent Madhok informed Trustees that the calendar was approved.

**11.11 – Field Trip Applications**

Interim Superintendent Madhok reported that a number of field trips were approved and are listed in the agenda package.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**13. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

Voucher Entry

Masset Board Office Location/Exempt Staff Schedule

Vice-Chair Denooij announced on behalf of the Board of Education the appointment of Lisa Bernoties McCullough as the new Superintendent. Ms. Bernoties McCullough brings years of knowledge and experience of the K-12 sector to the Haida Gwaii School District. Interim Superintendent Madhok will take on a Deputy Superintendent role as we transition into this new leadership.

**45. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chair Denooij adjourned the April 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting at 2029 hours.



---

Vice-Chair



---

Secretary-Treasurer