

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92 (NISGA'A)

Policy Subject: LANGUAGE VISIBILITY, PROMOTION, AND APPRECIATION

Date Passed: September 17, 2013

Date Amended: October 16, 2019

Description:
Language Visibility, Promotion and Appreciation

Policy No. 103-P

In order to ensure the visibility, promotion and appreciation of the historic language of the Nisga'a nation, the Board of Education expects the Nisga'a language to be used as much as possible in conducting business with its employees, as well as in its interactions with local, provincial and federal governments.

The founding provisions of the Constitution of the Nisga'a Nation state that:

- 4 (1) The official languages of the Nisga'a Government are Nisga'a and English; and
- 4 (2) Nisga'a Government must respect and encourage the use of the Nisga'a language and the practice of Nisga'a culture.

Accordingly, the Board of Education of School District No. 92 (Nisga'a) presents this policy towards respecting and encouraging the use of Nisga'a, as described in the aforementioned founding provisions of the Nisga'a Nation.

This policy covers:

1. The visibility of the Nisga'a language and culture;
 2. The promotion of the Nisga'a language and culture;
 3. The development of strategies that will progressively promote an increase in the use of the Nisga'a language.
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1. The Board of Education, the School District Administration, and the staff of schools in School District No. 92 (Nisga'a) are expected to lead the visibility and promotion of the Nisga'a language by example.
 2. All school district employees should refer to the four Nisga'a communities by the original Nisga'a names: Gitlaxt'aamiks, Gingolx, Laxgalts'ap, and Gitwinksihlkw, while working for the District. The names of New Aiyansh, Greenville, Kincolith, or Canyon City should not be used.

3. Employees sending official correspondence, whether on paper or electronically will include as much Nisga'a content as reasonably possible (i.e.: greeting, subject of the letter).
4. Employees should seek input from Nisga'a authorities on appropriate and accurate use of the Nisga'a language.
5. Every written contact with parents or community initiated by either a school or the School Board office, should integrate as much Nisga'a content as possible. English should continue to be used to facilitate understanding. The electronic displays at all our schools should use both the Nisga'a language and appropriate translations into English. .
6. School District Administration are responsible for the development of policies, strategies and initiatives to facilitate the implementation of this policy.
7. The Board will request that the Ministry of Education use the original Nisga'a names when referring to the four Nisga'a communities.
8. The Nisga'a Chiefs, Matriarchs and respected Elders who have revitalized this nation and who have thus made history, will be honored in the "Wall of Heroes", in each and every school with documents, posters and any resource that reflect their contribution to the revitalization of the Nisga'a Nation.
9. School District Administration are responsible to establish an inventory of all resources depicting the history and the people of the Nisga'a Nation, with the intention that an accurate record of these resources be maintained, that the resources be restored if needed, and that efforts are made to identify those individuals who have been community builders of the nation.
10. The School District will work with partners to develop credit courses that honor and reflect the history of the Nisga'a Nation, its leaders, and its Treaty.
11. The Board of Education of School District No. 92 (Nisga'a) will make best efforts to secure funding in order to implement the goals set out in this policy as soon as possible.