

**NISGA'A SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING - TEAMS
GITLAXT'AAMIKS, BC**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023 – 6:30 PM

In attendance:	Winnie Morven-Hansen Chair	Gitlaxt'aamiks Trustee
	George Nelson, Chair	Gingolx Trustee
	Edward Desson	Nass Camp & Surrounding Area
	Danica Moore	Laxgalts'ap Trustee
	Carl Azak	Gitwinksihkw Trustee
Also in attendance:	Jill Jensen	Superintendent of Schools
	Paul Mercer	Secretary Treasurer
	Kory Tanner	Secretary Treasurer
	Sharlene Grandison	Recording Secretary

Absent:

1. PROTOCOL

Board Chair Morven-Hansen acknowledged the passing of family members of Wilps Axdii Wil Luugooda and Wilps Duuk. We send out condolences to all the families. (in the In-Camera Meeting).

2. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Secretary Treasurer – Chair - Election for Board Chair and Vice-Chair

First call for Board Chair nominations

Trustee Moore nominated Trustee Morven-Hansen

Trustee Morven-Hansen accepts.

Second call for Board Chair Nominations - none

Third and final call for Board Chair Nominations - none

Trustee Morven-Hansen is proclaimed as Nisga'a School District 92 Board Chair.

Vice-Chair:

First call for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Trustee Morven-Hansen nominated Trustee Danica Moore.

Trustee Moore accepts nomination.

Second call for Vice-Chair nominations

Trustee Desson nominates Trustee George Nelson.

Trustee Moore accepts.

Third and final call for nominations for Vice-chair – none

Voting:

3 to 2 for Trustee Moore

Trustee Danica Moore is Vice-Chair

3. DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

There is a declaration of quorum.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

R02-1561

That the Board of Education approve the November 21, 2023, Agenda as presented.

Trustee Azak/Trustee Moore

Carried

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:

5.1 Minutes of October 17, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes

R02-1562

That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on October 17, 2023, be approved.

Trustee Desson/Trustee Moore

Carried

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

No Business arising from the October 17, 2023 Minutes.

7. **PRESENTATION:**

7.1 **NESS Presentation – Charity Peal**

Presented on:

- Student Code of Conduct – Grades 9 – 12
 - Discussed what a code of conduct is?
 - Why we considered it necessary.
 - What we felt it would look like for our school
 - What did we agree with.
 - What makes sense for our school.
 - Looked at...are there things that we want to add, there were things we may want discuss further.
- Student Input
 - Why is it important – We need a common understanding.
 - What do we agree with – What parts fit at NESS.
 - Invited input from Knowledge Keepers.
- Compassion & Kindness

8. **EDUCATION:**

Superintendent

8.1 **Superintendent's Update & Public Interest Disclosure Act – Operational Procedures**

Superintendent Jensen's report for 21 Gwilatkw 2023:

UBC Geer Up – submitted by NESS Staff

Public Interest Disclosure – Operational Policy 403

Indigenous Education Councils

School Plans for Enhancing Learning:

- Quality Teaching and Leadership
- Student-Centered Learning
- Future Orientation
- High and measurable standards
- Health and Effective learning environments

9. **BUSINESS:**
Secretary-Treasurer

9.1 Board Chair/Vice-Chair Elections

Elections done after "Call to Order".

9.2 SOFI – Statement of Financial Information

For consistency with the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act, respecting Public Accounts reporting, a Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) must be submitted by each school district within six months following the corporation's fiscal year end. School Districts are defined as corporations as outlined in the Financial Information Act.

Reference the attached 2022/2023 School District Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report.

R02-1563

That the Board of Education approve the 2022/2023 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) for the year end June 30, 2023.

Trustee Nelson/Trustee Desson

Carried

9.3 Information Technology Report

Information Technology Report for Board review.

Information only.

10. **POLICY DEVELOPMENT:**

10.1 Policy 4 – Appendix: Trustee Code of Conduct Sanctions – first reading

Superintendent Jensen:

We have added an appendix to Policy 4 – Trustee Code of Conduct. The Sanctions portion needed to be updated to be in compliance with Provincial expectations and the BC School Trustees Association. Recommending the Board approve the Appendix as presented.

R02-1564

That the Board of Education approve first reading – Policy 4 - Appendix Trustee Code of Conduct Sanctions as presented.

Trustee Nelson/Trustee Azak

Carried

11. TRUSTEE REPORTS:

11.1 BCSTA Provincial Council – Trustee Desson

Report on meeting of the BC School Trustees Association - Provincial Council

Meeting was held on October 20, 2023

The Provincial Council was established in 1987 to ensure the interest of all Boards represented in the governance of BCSTA, and to facilitate dialogue between member boards.

Meeting summary:

A presentation was given by Metis Nation of British Columbia, it overviewed Metis history in Canada, current Metis Nation programming, and resources that are available to schools.

Following that, there was an evening social among representatives of the Provincial Council. Where I learned at bit of the challenges facing other Northern Boards and the solutions that they implemented. It was time well spent.

October 21, 2023:

- More a business meeting in the morning with the adoption of agenda and minutes.
- President's Presentation – relayed their support for SOGI, support for disabled access into buildings, outlined safety of employees as a priority, and the need for an updated Code of Conduct to be put in place by the Spring 2024.
- Virtual Trustee Information Session will be held November to January.
- CEO Report – gave thanks to working groups for their work, talked about Advocacy Day which was a great success. Suggested that we check it out on social media, learning resources are not available on the portal for trustees to use, reminded that the CEO is in direct contact with the Ministry most of the time.
- This was followed by the Canadian School Board Association presentation. Focusing on priorities – indigenous education, on-going discussion with Yukon school boards on joining the association, and that tension is high in rural areas among school boards.
- Standing Committee Reports
- Improving student outcomes

12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

No correspondence received.

13. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD: 7:08 pm**

Derek Azak

Will the Board move away from virtual meetings? Very ineffective way to hold public meetings with technical issues, not everyone has access to Teams. Technical issue with freezing.

Board Chair Morven-Hansen

The reason why the Board is meeting virtually at this time is the weather conditions, and that has not been changed, it has more to do with safety.

Kathryn Kervel

Suggestion perhaps utilizing another platform such as Zoom that allows for more flexibility and security. For example, NLG uses the zoom webinar features to hold their meetings online for the public and can use the gallery view to see all participants.

Derek Azak:

Public Question period has technical issues with TEAMS as well. Please show all board trustees on the share screen for TEAMS during the meetings. We cannot see when the trustees are voting/raising their hand. This will provide more transparency for public board meeting held virtually.

Kory Tanner:


Which is why you call out the names of those that voted.

Board Chair Hansen-Morven:


Thank you, that will be definitely done in the future.

14. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Certified correct,
Winnie Morven-Hansen,
Board Chair



Certified correct,
Paul Mercer,
Secretary Treasurer