

**NISGA'A SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
VIRTUAL: Zoom**

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025 – 4:00 PM

In attendance:	George Nelson, Chair	Gingolx Trustee
	Winnie Morven-Hansen	Gitlaxt'aamiks Trustee
	Danica Moore	Laxgalts'ap Trustee
	Carl Azak	Gitwinksihlkw Trustee
	Gary Cox	Nass Camp & Surrounding Areas

Also in attendance:	Robert Clifton	Superintendent of Schools
	Paul Mercer	Secretary Treasurer
	Sharlene Grandison	Executive Assistant - Recorder

Absent:

1. PROTOCOL:

2. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm.

3. DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

The Chair declared quorum.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

R02-1622

That the Board of Education approved the February 4, 2025, Agenda as presented.

Trustee Morven-Hansen/Trustee Azak

Carried

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

5.1 Regular Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2025

R02-1623

That the Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board held on February 4, 2025 be approved.

Trustee Azak/Trustee Cox

Carried

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

No business arising from the minutes.

7. PRESENTATION:

7.1 Culturally Grounded Counseling Program

Presenters: Keane Tait & Morgan Monkman

- Discussed culturally grounded counseling in Nisga'a School District 92
- Introduced a grounding practice for students.
- Highlighted collaboration with Nisga'a Valley Health.
- Focused on identity, connection, and self-care.
- Developed strategies for integrating language and culture into counseling.
- Encouraged partnerships with external agencies for student support.

Comments:

- Trustee Azak and Trustee Morven-Hansen expressed appreciation for the collaboration and student-centered approach.

7.2 Nisga'a Teachers' Union

Presenter: Derek Azak

- Discussed alignment of professional development days with School District 82.
- Addressed concerns about staffing shortages, lack of substitute teachers, and student support.
- Raised concerns about virtual board meetings limiting transparency and participation.

8. EDUCATION:

Superintendent

8.1 Superintendent Update – February 2025

- Provided updates on the strategic planning process.
- Community engagement meetings scheduled for May.
- Teacher and administrator evaluations underway.
- Job descriptions for senior leadership roles being finalized.
- Highlight student participation in District Hoobiye and cultural celebrations.

R02-1624

That the Board of Education receive and file the Superintendent's February 2025 report as presented.

Trustee Morven-Hansen/Trustee Cox

Carried

8.2 Indigenous Education Director's Report

Tanya Azak

- Provided updates on language educator meetings and curriculum integration.
- Highlights upcoming Nisga'a Author Series.
- Announced cultural days scheduled for each school.

R02-1625

That the Board of Education receive and file the Indigenous Education report for February 2025 as presented.

Trustee Azak/Trustee Morven-Hansen

Carried

8.3 2025/2026 School Calendar Approval

Superintendent Clifton presented for approval, the 2025/2026 School Calendar.

R02-1626

That the Board of Education approve the 2025/2026 School Calendar with adjustments to align professional development days with School District No. 92 (Coast Mountain).

Trustee Morven-Hansen/Trustee Azak

Carried

9. **BUSINESS:**

Secretary Treasurer

9.1 Annual Amended Budget

R02-1627

Secretary-Treasurer Mercer requested approval of three readings in one sitting for the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2024/2025.

Trustee Morven-Hansen/Trustee Cox

Carried

AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW

A Bylaw of THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92 (NISGA'A) (called the "board") to adopt the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2024/2025 pursuant to section 113 of the School Act, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

1. The Board has complied with the provisions of the Act, Ministerial Orders, and Ministry of Education and Child Care Policies respecting the Amended Annual Budget adopted by this bylaw.
2. This bylaw may be cited as School District No. 92 (Nisga'a) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2024/2025.

3. The attached Statement 2 showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2024/2025 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$15, 757.939 for the 224/2025 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the Act.
4. Statement 2, 4, and Schedules 1 to 4 are adopted as the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2024/2025.

R02-1628

READ A FIRST TIME THE 4TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2025;

R02-1629

READ A SECOND TIME THE 4TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2025;

R02-1630

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 4TH DAY OF FEBURARY, 2025;

Trustee Morven-Hansen/Trustee Cox

Carried

9.2 Auditors MNP LLP Letter

- Auditor's engagement letter from Myers, North, Penny & Co. reviewed.
- Board Chair authorized to sign engagement letter.

9.3 School Water Testing Report

- Water quality tests conducted by First Nations Health Authority.
- Minor lead and copper concerns at some locations; mitigation strategies implemented.

10. **POLICY DEVELOPMENT:**

10.1 Reviewing Governance Policy

- Governance policy review scheduled for April.
- New policies being drafted.

11. **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

11.1 BCPSEA – Representative Trustee Winnie Morven-Hansen

Trustee Morven Hansen will be attending a bargaining workshop in Vancouver.

11.2 Provincial Council – Trustee Carl Azak

Trustee Azak reported on BCSTA meeting discussions on tariffs, Victoria School Board concerns, and trustee leadership programs.

12. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

12.1 Business – Chair Update

Chair: Trustee Carl Azak

- Discussed financial reports, policy reviews, and strategic planning.
- Alternate trustee to be determined.

12.2 Education – Chair Update

- Committee formation and membership still in progress.

13. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**

13.1 No correspondence received.

14. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:**

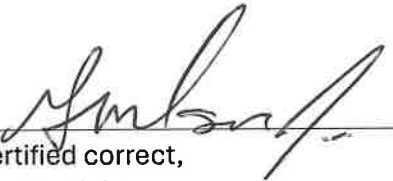
- Questions from Derek Azak regarding projected budget deficit, staffing expenditures, and the Education Committee.
- Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer provided responses.

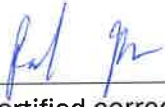
15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned 7:38 pm.

Trustee Morven-Hansen/Trustee Azak

Carried


 Certified correct,
 George Nelson,
 Board Chair


 Certified correct,
 Paul Mercer,
 Secretary Treasurer