

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92 (NISGA'A)
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGUAR BOARD MEETING
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE - MICROSOFT TEAMS
GITLAXT'AAMIKS, BC**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020 – 6:30 PM

In attendance:	Elsie Davis, Board Chair Charlene Ousey Alvin Azak Norman Hayduk Floyde Stevens	Laxgalts'ap Trustee Gitlaxt'aamiks Trustee Gitwinksihlkw Trustee Nass Camp Trustee Gingolx Trustee via Teams
Also, in attendance:	Jill Jensen Kory Tanner Sharlene Grandison	Superintendent Secretary Treasurer Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm

2. DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Board Chair declared a quorum.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 15, 2020:

R02-1330

That Board of Education approve the December 15, 2020 Agenda as presented.

Trustee Ousey/Trustee Stevens

Carried

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:

R02-1331

That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on November 17, 2020 be approved as presented.

Trustee Ousey/Trustee Stevens

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

None

6. PRESENTATION:

No presentations

7. **EDUCATION:**
Jill Jensen, Superintendent

7.1 Appropriate Use of Electronic Social Media

Update:

We have been working on updating the Procedure around the Appropriate Use of Electronic Social Media. The initial draft was sent out a few weeks ago and we have been busy with other things. We continue working on that, and hope to have a completed initial draft to share with staff, public and the Board at our January Board Meeting.

Trustee Hayduk:

Is that coming across as a policy?

Superintendent Jensen:

No, this would be an Administrative Procedure.

Trustee Ousey:

If it is a procedure and anything that happens would it be just administrative up to you as Superintendent? If one of our employees or anybody was breaching this policy or procedure is there any consequence? Wouldn't that make it policy?

Superintendent Jensen:

We can have consequences with Procedure too.

7.2 Continuity of Learning

As everyone is aware, on November 20th I made the decision to return to remote learning and have students learning at home. As of yesterday, students returned for in-class learning if they chose to. We have our K-7's able to come back full time. Our 8 – 12's on a reduced schedule from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. That decision was made based on consultation with our Emergency Preparedness Committee and in following with Ministry guideline. In my last position, I was in a community I had been in for 17 years, and I knew families, community and students, and I was comfortable making decision because I felt I knew who I was making decisions for. I am new here, so it has been interesting and difficult for me to make decisions about our students learning, because I do not have relationships with families yet. I do care deeply about our students, their education and their well-being in all aspects and also keenly aware of the health and safety concerns. I want to make the best decisions for our children and for the communities. I am doing my best to make the best decisions I can for our students without having relationships with you yet. We have put enhanced safety measures in place and because I need some feedback from families, I sent out a survey yesterday requesting some information from you. I need to know your thoughts, how are you feeling about safety measures, how are you feeling about schooling and the options that are available to them. This week we

have several families who are choosing to continue with learning at home, teachers are providing learning packages for students. In the survey I am asking if, come January if families are interested in having their children back full time, part time with part time learning at home. The survey went out just yesterday, I do not have final results yet, will wait a couple more days. There are 78 responses so far. Once I have a little bit more feedback and in consultation with Principals and staff, we will make a decision about what January will look like.

Trustee Ousey:

Sounds like it is going to be difficult for anybody to make a decision. Should people really make a decision, it seems like it is putting you in an impossible situation. When does this survey close?

Superintendent Jensen:

Until Thursday morning. I am thinking of all kinds of options. There is a lot of valuable information in the comments. I think when I spend some more time reviewing those, I will have a greater insight as to why parents are undecided.

Trustee Hayduk:

When you are saying a certain percentage of the students are returning the packages that have gone home, have they got a sense of the effectiveness of that sort of system? Is there significant value to that?

Superintendent Jensen:

The advantage is the safety of the students and families. As far as the learning model, it is not ideal, many of our students have not been that engaged with the at home learning. We are also coming into a holiday break, whether students are in school or not, engagement can be more challenging before a break. Attendance yesterday and today has been very low. We do not have many students back this week.

7.3 Throughout the District

NBES:

Gingolx Social Development has sponsored all the students with \$20 worth of books from the Scholastic Book Fair, books will be received Friday. They also sponsored classrooms with \$150 worth of books and \$150 towards classroom incentive prizes. That totals \$1320 for purchase of books in support of literacy.

AAMES:

Have received funding from FNEESC for a Co-op Education Program for their grades 6, 7 class. When they are able, they will be looking at opportunities to have students work at the museum and the day care, as well as the K/1 or 2/3 class and to work with artists. The plan is to have two students at a time every Wednesday for 3 weeks working in those different environments. They

are also looking at completing their greenhouse. They are hoping to create public art pieces with a local artist.

The District:

The district has offered all staff the opportunity to take a Mindfulness Training through UBC. It is a 20-hour program. Teachers will receive certification after completion. It trains educators to manage stress through understanding emotions and how to control them, self-care, effective strategies relating to difficult situations, ways to support programs for students and mindfulness, work on enhancing concentration executive function with students. Improving well-being mental and physical health and promoting happiness through health habits of mind. This will start in January.

Sr. Administration has been working with Rod Allen on Strategic Planning and Vision. They will continue that throughout the year. It is going really well so far.

Trustee Ousey:

Good news to hear, sending everybody for Mindfulness Training. It is nice to hear they will be certified. They can teach others?

Superintendent Jensen:

Yes, and they will have more skills and strategies to work with students. Many of staff at AAMES did the training a few years ago. They brought the facilitator into the community to work with parents as well. This is part of our district initiative to share that more broadly.

Board Chair:

Had the opportunity through Nisga'a Child and Family Services to take a 1-day workshop with some of the teachers that were given the chance to sign up with Nisga'a Child and Family Services. There were 20 seats for a Behaviour workshop through Zoom. It was really good to see that the seats were full. There were a lot of teachers that were engaged, and they participated with Nisga'a Child and Family Services in this workshop in regards to behaviours and the behaviours were primarily mitigating and helping with behaviours around autism. Also, they were able to flow very nicely into children that have difficulties with other things as home life, stress, etc. So that was another opportunity our teachers took. It was a volunteer opportunity and they showed up.

8. **BUSINESS:**

Kory Tanner, Secretary Treasurer

8.1 Monthly Financial Statements – November 30, 2020

Attached are the Monthly Financial Statements for everybody's information. Based on where we are in the school year, our spending is pretty much right on par, where we should be. No issues at this point. We

are concentrating on making sure that we have resources out in the schools for the students.

For information only.

Trustee Ousey:

Thank you, Ms. Tanner for getting the Financials out. It is nice to see that they are coming out every month. Thank you for all your hard work.

9. **POLICY DEVELOPMENT:**

none

10. **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

none

11. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**

none

12. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:**

Taron Scott:

Is it possible to receive reports on participant/attendees of the Board meetings?

Board Chair:

I am not sure if you mean public attendees Ms. Scott or if you mean Board members and administration. Board members and Administration are listed in the minutes. If you are requesting for public, I am not sure if that is possible. Ms. Tanner is that a possibility?

Secretary Treasurer Tanner:

It is not, we can only see how many people joined the meeting, we can't see who they are.

Taron Scott:

Just general numbers of attendees to those meetings.

Kathryn Kervel:

Thank you to the Superintendent for creating the survey for parents/guardians. Is it possible to send out a notice deadline of the survey and is there another way to reach those parents who are not on social media or not as tech savvy?

Superintendent Jensen:

Yes, it is possible to send out a notice through schools, through Principals and I know when we have had surveys in the past, Principals are generally aware of families who cannot access social media and can provide paper copies of the survey. They know other ways to get the information out to their families. If you have any suggestions, I would be happy to hear them. It is also posted on the website as well.

Board Chair:

The general number of attendees to these meetings Ms. Scott, not sure if you caught it. Secretary Treasurer said that it is not possible for us to be able to track the general number of attendees due to the way that we are doing the meetings right now. I am not sure if it is something we can revisit when we are post COVID regulations.

Trustee Stevens:

For transparency purposes, our scribe can add into the minutes how many people were signed in for the public commentary. If Ms. Tanner has the number of people who are signed in right now and are listening to the meeting, maybe that can be added to the minutes.

Taron Scott:

Yes, thank you Trustee Stevens, that is a good idea.

Before adjournment, Trustee Azak to pays respect to the family that has lost a family member in Laxgalts'ap.

13. **ADJOURNMENT:**

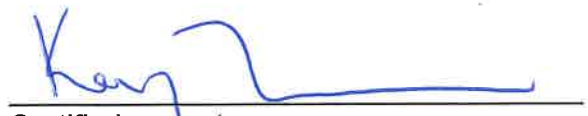
The Meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m.

Trustee Azak/Trustee Stevens

Carried



Certified correct,
Elsie Davis,
Board Chair



Certified correct,
Kory Tanner,
Secretary Treasurer