

**NISGA'A SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
GITWINKSIHLKW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GITWINKSIHLKW, BC**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024 – 6:30 PM

In attendance:	Winnie Morven-Hansen, Chair Danica Moore Carl Azak Gary Cox	Gitlaxt'aamiks Trustee Laxgalts'ap Trustee Gitwinksihlkw Trustee Nass Camp & Surrounding Areas
Also in attendance:	Matthew Monkman Robert Clifton Paul Mercer Sharlene Grandison	Superintendent of Schools Incoming Superintendent of Schools Secretary Treasurer Recording Secretary
Absent:	George Nelson	Gingolx Trustee

1. **PROTOCOL:** Acknowledgement for Wilps Ksdiyaawak and Wilps Gwiixmaaw on the loss of family members.

2. **CALL TO ORDER:**

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

3. **DECLARATION OF QUORUM:**

Board Chair declared quorum.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

R02-1601

That the Board of Education approve the October 8, 2024, Agenda as presented.

Trustee Azak/Trustee Cox

Carried

5. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:**

5.1 Minutes of September 10, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

R02-1602

That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on September 10, 2024, be approved as presented.

Trustee Cox/Trustee Azak

Carried

5.2 Minutes of September 24, 2024, Special Regular Meeting Minutes

R02-1603

That the Minutes of the Special Regular Meeting of the Board held on September 24, 2024, be approved as presented.

Trustee Cox/Trustee Azak

Carried

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

7. **PRESENTATION:**

8. **EDUCATION:**
Superintendent

8.1 Superintendent Report – October 2024

Superintendent Monkman presented his October 2024 Report:

- Professional Learning – October 20th a Non-instructional day, Professional learning Chairperson, Kimi Hisanaga, organized a day of Nisga'a language learning for district staff.
- Revitalization of band Program – the district has engaged Bryce Cotton to teach band classes at Nisga'a Elementary Secondary School. The district has redirected \$10,000 of funding towards the purchase of some additional instruments to augment the program.
- Nisga'a School District Social Media Account – This month the district refreshed its FaceBook page as a communication platform for the community, staff and students. The page has been rebranded as "Nisga'a School District No. 92 – Gilmuxw" (to tell news – pass on information).
- USport Basketball Teams – University basketball teams that came in the valley visited school sites and engaged with students while learning about this place and Nisga'a language and culture. It was an amazing opportunity for our learning to connect with post-secondary basketball players and the organizers of this event are applauded for bringing them into the valley.
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Students and staff around our schools acknowledged September 30th National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with events and activities. NESS along with GES marched to Nisga'a Lisims Government building where powerful speeches by youth and community members were delivered.
- Poles Provided to Nathan Barton Elementary – October 3rd, the PRGT (Nisga'a Lisims/Western LNG) company delivered a cedar pole in three sections to NBES. This was received in a traditional ceremony by Chiefs of the community. The sections will be used for a carved pole and other carving projects.

8.2 Nisga'a Learner Enhancement Report

Director of Indigenous Education & Early Learning – Tanya Azak
Indigenous Education Family:

- Elder in Residence – provides guidance, mentorship and leadership to all educators within the Nisga'a School District

- Helping Teacher – promotes inclusion of Nisga’a language and culture, while fostering inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students.
- Support Teacher – focusses on supporting all Nisga’a learners in language and culture.

Indigenous Education Council – In collaboration with senior management, we are learning about and supporting the establishment of an IEC. Letters for nominees have gone out. November 1st will be the appointment of these members. First gathering is scheduled for November 1, 2024. IEC Gathering November 12, 2024. Goals for the month: review the IEC materials in preparation of the 1st IEC gathering.

Early Learning:

StrongStart BC

Ready Set Learn (RSL) Program

Highlights from September:

- Each school hosted a “Walk back to school” events
 - Orange Shirt Day NESS & GES
 - Donation of cedar poles to NBES
 - Language & Culture Classes Thursdays at 7PM on Zoom (begins Oct. 10)
- Unity Day Planning for the 50th Anniversary, first meeting has happened.

9. **BUSINESS:**

Secretary-Treasurer

9.1 Lava Rock Removal - NESS

- Lava rock should not be on the building
- Is sacred
- Removal will help clear the negative energy from the school
- Have a ceremony to bring the lava rock back where it belongs
- Get an architect estimation for removal
- Get full story on why it was installed in the first place

R02-1604

That the Board of Education approve the Investigation on the removal and cultural return of lava rock facing on Nisga’a Elementary Secondary School.

Trustee Azak/Trustee Cox

Carried

10. **POLICY DEVELOPMENT:**

No policy development.

11. **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

No Trustee Reports.

12. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**

No correspondence.

13. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:**

No public in attendance.

14. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Trustee Azak/Trustee Cox

Carried



Certified correct,
Winnie Morven-Hansen,
Board Chair



Certified correct,
Paul Mercer,
Secretary Treasurer