



**NISGA'A SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING – MICROSOFT TEAMS  
GITLAᖃT'AAMIX, BC**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023 – 6:30 PM**

**A G E N D A**

1. <b>CALL TO ORDER</b>			
2. <b>DECLARATION OF QUORUM</b>			
3. <b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR JANUARY 17, 2023</b>	Motion		
4. <b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:</b>			
4.1 Regular Meeting – December 13, 2022	Motion	Attachment	Page 1-3
5. <b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:</b>			
6. <b>PRESENTATION:</b>			
6.1 Wal'aks (Keane Tait) - SOGI	Information		
7. <b>EDUCATION:</b>			
<b>Superintendent</b>			
7.1 2023/2024 District Calendar	Information	Attachment	Page 4-8
7.2 Indigenous Education Report	Information	Attachment	Page 9-11
7.3			
7.4			
8. <b>BUSINESS:</b>			
<b>Secretary-Treasurer</b>			
8.1			
8.2			
8.3			
9. <b>POLICY DEVELOPMENT:</b>			
10. <b>TRUSTEE REPORTS:</b>			
10.1			
11. <b>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:</b>			
11.1 None			
12. <b>PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:</b>			
13. <b>ADJOURNMENT:</b>			

**Note: Next Board Meeting: February 14, 2023 – Online with Teams**



# NISGA'S SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92

## MEETING AGENDA ITEM 4.1

<b>Action:</b>	X	<b>Information:</b>	
<b>Meeting:</b>	Regular	<b>Meeting Date:</b>	January 17, 2023
<b>Topic:</b>	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board – December 13, 2022		

### **Background/Discussion:**

Minutes as attached.

### **Recommended Action:**

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on December 13, 2022 be approved.

Presented by: Board Chair

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

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022 – 6:30 PM**

<b>In attendance:</b>	George Nelson, Chair John Johansen Danica Moore Edward Desson	Gingolx Trustee Gitwinksihlkw Trustee Laxgalts'ap Trustee Nass Camp Area Trustee
<b>Also in attendance:</b>	Jill Jensen Kory Tanner	Superintendent of Schools Secretary-Treasurer
<b>Absent:</b>	Winnie Morven-Hansen Sharlene Grandison	Gitlaxt'aamiks Trustee (Compassionate Leave) Recording Secretary

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm

**2. DECLARATION OF QUORUM:**

There is a declaration of quorum.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**R02-1420**

That the Board of Education approve the December 13, 2022 Agenda as presented.

Trustee Moore/Trustee Johansen

Carried

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

4.1 Minutes of November 29, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes

**R02-1421**

That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on November 29, 2022, be approved as presented.

Trustee Johansen/Trustee Desson

Carried

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

No business arising from the November 29, 2022 Minutes.

6. **PRESENTATION:**

No presentations.

7. **EDUCATION:**

Superintendent

7.1 Superintendent's Verbal Update

Superintendent Jensen's verbal update on:

- Report Cards have been sent home
- Christmas Celebrations happening throughout the district.

8. **BUSINESS:**

Secretary-Treasurer

8.2 Monthly Financial Statements

Monthly Financial Statements ending October 31, 2022 are for Board review.

For information only.

9. **POLICY DEVELOPMENT:**

No Policies.

10. **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

No Trustee reports.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**

No correspondence received.

12. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:** via Microsoft Teams

No public in attendance.

13. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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Certified correct,  
George Nelson,  
Board Chair

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Certified correct,  
Kory Tanner,  
Secretary Treasurer



**NISGA' A SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92**

<b><u>MEETING AGENDA ITEM 7.1</u></b>			
<b>Action:</b>		<b>Information:</b>	X
<b>Meeting:</b>	Regular	<b>Meeting Date:</b>	January 17, 2023
<b>Topic:</b>	2023/2024 School Calendar		
<b>Background/Discussion:</b>			
<p>2023/2024 District Calendar needs to go out to the public for consultation for 30 days and then be approved by the Board by March 31. Two options will be presented.</p>			
<b>Recommended Action:</b>			
<p>For information.</p>			
Presented by: Superintendent			

# 2023/2024 CALENDAR

JULY						
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DECEMBER						
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JANUARY						
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■ Instructional    
 ■ Non-Instructional    
 ■ Vacation Period    
 ■ Statutory Holiday

# SCHOOL CALENDAR FORM - GENERAL

## 2024/2025 CALENDAR

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AUGUST						
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SEPTEMBER						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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APRIL						
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MAY						
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JUNE						
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■ Instructional   
 ■ Non-Instructional   
 ■ Vacation Period   
 ■ Statutory Holiday



Ministry of  
Education and  
Child Care

## School District Calendar Consultation

January 2023

Under the *School Act*, boards are required to submit their calendars to the Ministry of Education and Child Care for review and may submit calendars for **up to 3 consecutive years** at one time. Each school calendar should cover at least 12 consecutive months and begin on the day following the end of the current school calendar. This means that for the majority of school districts, 2023-24 school calendars will begin on July 1, 2023.

1) All Public Schools except Online Learning Schools require

- (a) The number and dates of the days in session;
- (b) The number and dates of each day of instruction;
- (c) The vacation periods and dates of statutory holidays;
- (d) The dates of each non-instructional day; and
- (e) The number of hours of instruction offered to students in each grade (per year).

The minimum number of hours of instruction for the **2023/24 school year and subsequent school years** is:

**853 hours** of instruction for students in Kindergarten  
**878 hours** of instruction for students in Grades 1 to 7  
**952 hours** of instruction for students in Grades 8 to 12

### Consultation

Section 87.01 (7) of the *School Act* requires consultation on school calendars, and the School Calendar Regulation sets out the parameters for that consultation. A board must make public a proposed school calendar one month before submitting it to the Ministry. For the 2023/24 calendar submission cycle, proposed calendars must be made public on or before February 28, 2023. During the consultation period, a board must provide parents and board employees the opportunity to comment on the proposed calendar.

**Boards are required to submit their 2023-24 school calendars by March 31, 2023.**



## **Nisga'a School District 92 Calendar Proposals**

We are putting forward a calendar for the 2023/2024 and the 2024/2025 school years.

Both calendars include the following:

- 6 non-instructional professional development days
- 1 administrative day which is the last school day of the year
- Two-week winter break
- Two-week spring break
- Stat holidays recognized by the province and those set out in the CUPE collective agreement
- Observation of the Federal Government designated day for the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation - September 29, 2023 and September 30, 2024
- 2023/2024 has one additional vacation day on June 21 (National Indigenous Peoples' Day)
- 2024/2025 has one additional vacation day on February 14 making this a 5-day long weekend for families

Both calendars have 181 instructional days which allows us to meet our obligations to the teachers' collective agreement:

- D.24 Duration of the School Day
- D.25 Teachers Daily Instructional Hours

Non-instructional days are aligned as much as possible with neighbouring school districts so that we can share resources and professional learning initiatives.

We have not approved two years in a row. Many districts do approve more than one year at a time. Both SD52 (Prince Rupert) and SD82 (Coast Mountains) approve for multiple years. This can be helpful for staff and families in planning ahead.

Calendars will be sent to all staff and all families for feedback. We will provide a short online survey, as well as a paper survey. Paper surveys will be available at schools and at the board office. Surveys will be open for a minimum of 30 days.

The Board will need to approve the calendars during the March board meeting.



**MEETING AGENDA ITEM 7.2**

<b>Action:</b>		<b>Information:</b>	X
<b>Meeting:</b>	Regular	<b>Meeting Date:</b>	January 17, 2023
<b>Topic:</b>	Indigenous Education Report		

**Background/Discussion:**

Indigenous Education Report – November 2022 attached.

**Recommended Action:**

For information.

Presented by: Superintendent

Welcome to each of you, the new Nisga'a School District 92 board members. We are delighted at your arrival and put forth the most precious of medicine for your sacred walk with us as we guide our students and staff into a bright and promising future.

At the beginning of this 22/23 school year, we sat as a family of educators to plant some seeds of local Nisga'a culture. We've reinstated the longhouse style of meeting by sitting in a circle. The circle allows for an atmosphere of calm and open-minded energy.

The presence of the drum, song and dance or what we love to refer to as ceremony was prevalent throughout the few days gathering. Such loving methods have set the tone for a delightful Nisga'a enrichment approach to learning. We will keep using our drums.

One aspect that we have adopted into our method of upholding the district's strategic plan, which is rooted in Nisga'a belonging is the "Benefits of the Indigenous drum", by Davita Marsden. Through the process of embracing the teachings of the drum we are,

- Infusing indigenous voice through the curriculum.
- Revitalizing Indigenous language, music, spiritual and cultural practices.
- Reinstating Nisga'a natural ways of knowing and being.

#### SUCSESSES since we opened the doors in September 2022

- Courses such as grade 10 English Spoken Language are calling upon an awareness of self through studying mainstream approaches of Indigenous poetry, regional aboriginal authors, AND a peek into what truth and reconciliation is rooted in. Students are upon a pathway of discovering their roots by telling their family histories.
- The daily practice of TPR through our 5 Sim'algaḡ classroom settings is fast underway with positive results. We want to branch out to include parents in the learning too.
- The presence of the drum to tell stories, to call students into the school, to sing and dance is evident in each of our sacred settings. We are learning to hand this over to the student body to lead as they step into being brave. We are collectively learning the DISTRICT SONG so that we can present it on Aboriginal Day 2023.
- Greeting students in Sim'algaḡ at the bus when they arrive is a step back into traditional protocol. We will be approaching local community members to partake in this process in an effort to bridge community back to the school.
- The presence of Elders (fluent speakers) in our school settings is alive and well.

- The continuous compilation of story based Sim'alga text learning resources have continued and we are now in year 4. Stories are in the process of having audio enhancements with fluent speakers.

### Questions...

We ask this question, where is our community? Where are the jijii, the ye'e, the biip...

When will our school settings become an extension of community and not a place to point fingers at?

If we are in fact a Nisga'a District, where is our Nisga'a Nation funding?

Where is the positive lending of supportive energy that the Nisga'a declaration speaks of?

Where is the Sayt-K'ilim-Goot?

The purpose of my reports to the school board is to enlighten with fact-based interactions and achievements, progress on how our team is creating and maintaining progressive academic and Nisga'a enriched programming. We hold sacred space by showing up and at the same time we do this knowing that we sit a place with a lack of human resources. To those who have shown up and continue to lend of their unique energies, we applaud you.

Things to add...

- Monthly grade 7 bonding and growing time...
- Ongoing use of TPR (visits to other schools will begin in February)
- Call from other districts for zoom lessons or visits...
- Begin a new focus with the high school program and the new language lab...
- The need to have a rotation of elders in the school...
- Being called to sit as a representative on the language and culture authority with NLG...