



NISGA'A SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 92

4702 Huwilp Road
PO Box 240
Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC
V0J 1A0

Phone: 250-633-2228
Fax: 250-633-2401

March 11, 2026

STAFFING ANNOUNCEMENT – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Staffing Announcement: Vice-Principal – Nisga'a Elementary School

Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC – Nisga'a School District No. 92 is pleased to announce that Rachel Whitney has been appointed Vice Principal of Nisga'a Elementary School, effective March 30, 2026. Rachel will be joining Principal Martha Swinn, who has been leading NES since the beginning of this school year. We look forward to the strengths this leadership team will bring as they work together in support of Nisga'a learners, families, and the broader community.

Rachel brings more than nine years of experience in instructional leadership, inclusive education, educator development, and culturally responsive practice. Her work across the Nova Scotia Community College system has included leadership in inclusive education and culturally responsive pedagogies, the design and facilitation of professional learning for faculty and management teams, and advising on Indigenization and decolonization initiatives across multiple campuses and programs. She has taught and supported learners in a variety of settings, including adult learning programs aligned with provincial curriculum, and she has provided guidance to teams working in both post-secondary and community-based environments. Rachel's leadership is grounded in Mi'kmaq values, a strong commitment to equity, and a deep belief in transforming education systems into inclusive, culturally informed, and supportive learning environments for all students.

Together, Principal Martha Swinn and Vice Principal Rachel Whitney will form a collaborative leadership team committed to inclusive education, culturally grounded practice, and the success and well-being of Nisga'a learners. Their partnership will continue to advance the district's vision of Sayt K'il'im Goot.

The district would also like to extend heartfelt appreciation to Sayt Daxhl – Beverly Azak, for her dedicated service as Vice Principal at Nisga'a Elementary School. Beverly has offered steady leadership rooted in Nisga'a values and ways of knowing, contributing meaningfully to school culture, student support, and community connection. Her experience in instructional mentorship, community engagement, language and culture integration, and program design has strengthened learning environments at NES. Beverly will be moving to Alvin A. McKay Elementary School as Vice Principal, and we wish her continued success in her new assignment.

Please join us in welcoming Rachel to Nisga'a Elementary School and in expressing our sincere appreciation to Beverly for her contributions and continued service to Nisga'a learners.