

November 21, 2016

The Honourable Mike Bernier  
Room 134, Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Bernier,

At the November 16, 2016 public board meeting, the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) approved the following motion:

*"THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) write a letter to request that when a Board of Education is fired an election date be called within 6 months following the Provincial Government's appointment of a non-elected trustee".*

The Board appreciates the need for accountability, especially as it relates to trustees adhering to their oath of office. However, like the BC School Trustees Association and its member Boards, we believe having democratically elected citizens representing local education interests is fundamental to achieving student success. Democratically elected trustees are ultimately accountable to residents in their communities through the electoral process. While we understand circumstances may vary from community to community we believe there should be some urgency to conducting a by-election to replace those who have been removed from office with locally elected representatives.

Sincerely



Mike Murray, Chairperson  
Board of Education

Cc:

Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)  
BCSTA for distribution to all Boards of Education