



March 31, 2017

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

Dear Minister Bernier,

**Re: Follow up regarding FSA reporting**

First let me take this opportunity to thank you and Ministry staff once again for your advocacy in obtaining Treasury Board approval on the South Albion School Project. As I mentioned at the announcement, our board is very appreciative of all the efforts made by yourself, MLAs Bing and Dalton, and ministry staff in particular on this file.

You may recall we had a brief conversation about FSA reporting on that day. I conveyed to you at the time our board's concern about our students' limited participation in FSA testing, and noted that this lack of participation is a direct response to the way in which some outside organizations have been using the results to rate and rank schools.

At the time, I also shared with you a recommendation on how the concern could potentially be addressed. The recommendation I presented to you received support both from our local Maple Ridge Teachers' Association and from the BCTF president before I shared it with you.

Thank you again for your commitment to forwarding our recommendation to the appropriate committee for consideration. My intent in this correspondence is to formalize our recommendation on this subject.

We agree both the Ministry and our district can benefit from the new FSA testing to assess how we are doing as a district, and how our students are doing individually. As long as the results are not collected or reported on a school-by-school basis, we know our teachers' association will encourage rather than discourage student participation. The resulting increase in student participation will produce far more valid data than is currently available.

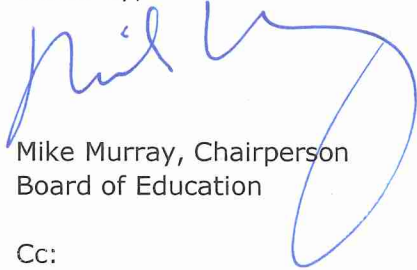
Consequently, we are suggesting that a revised FSA reporting model be recommended to the Ministry of Education's advisory group on provincial assessment in which school districts are required to:

- conduct the new foundational skills assessment, collate the data and report district-wide results to the Ministry;
- make individual student results available to parents on request; and
- not collect or publish the data on a school-by-school basis.

As mentioned during our meeting, we are hopeful the advisory committee on FSA reporting will be reconvened soon to consider this approach along with its other recommendations to the Ministry on this important subject.

We look forward to hearing any feedback the Ministry or committee may wish to provide and would be happy to discuss the subject further at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Mike Murray, Chairperson  
Board of Education

Cc:

Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)  
Mr. George Serra, President, Maple Ridge Teachers' Association  
Mr. Dave Byng, Deputy Minister of Education  
Ms. Theresa Rezansoff, President, BC School Trustees Association  
BCSTA for distribution to all Boards of Education  
MLA Doug Bing  
MLA Marc Dalton