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**Province of
British Columbia**
Legislative Assembly



Marc Dalton, M.L.A.
Maple Ridge-Mission

June 10, 2015

Hon. Peter Fassbender
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC

Dear Minister Fassbender:

Earlier this week, I had the privilege of meeting with the full Board of Trustees for School District #42. It was an informative meeting. Good things are happening in the School District as you have observed yourself in a past visit. I was impressed to learn that S.D. 42's Aboriginal and Special Needs Students' graduation rate is significantly above the provincial average, 73% vs 63% prov. and 85% vs 72% prov. I do however, want to communicate three areas that were brought forward to me as areas of concern.

- 1) **EXEMPT STAFF:** They have not seen an increase in salary since 2009. The Board stated that it is finding that there is little incentive to take on these increased areas of responsibility. Furthermore, they want to ensure that if a salary increase is implemented that it will in fact be fully funded by the Ministry.
- 2) **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT ISSUES:** The School District collaborates with other Ministries to support students with emotional and physical challenges. It has noticed that the supports received from these Ministries seem also increasingly challenged to the detriment of students.
- 3) **CO-GOVERNANCE MODEL:** The members of the Board stated that they do not feel that co-governance is a reality despite being told last year that this would be the case.

Thank you for your service to British Columbia's students and educators. We have a very good system, but as we all know, there is always room for improvement. I hope that you will consider these issues as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Marc Dalton, MLA
Maple Ridge-Mission

Cc: School District 42 Board of Trustees and Superintendent