

Wednesday, September 11, 2013
5:00 p.m.

District Education Office
22225 Brown Avenue
Boardroom

A G E N D A

*“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence” –
Helen Keller*

A – OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order
2. Correspondence ITEM 1
 - i. BCSTA Boards of Education Survey - Trustee Remuneration/Meals/Mileage
 - ii. Peter Fassbender – Minister of Education July 31, 2013
 - iii. Frank Lento, Chair – SD No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay)
 - iv. Mel Joy, Chair – SD No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) July 26, August 8 & September 3, 2013
 - v. Moyra Baxter, Chair – SD No. 23 (Central Okanagan) June 27, 2013
 - vi. Walt Krahn, Chair/Silvia Dyck, Vice Chair – SD No. 33 (Chilliwack) June 27, 2013
 - vii. Donna Sargent, Chair – SD No. 38 (Richmond) July 3, 2013
 - viii. Patti Bacchus, Chair – SD No. 39 (Vancouver) July 3 & August 20, 2013
 - ix. Baljinder Narang, Chair – SD No. 41 (Burnaby) July 2, July 4 & August 7, 2013
 - x. Melissa Hyndes, Chair – SD No. 43 (Coquitlam) June 25, 2013
 - xi. Betty Baxter, Vice-Chair – SD No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) July 30, 2013.
 - xii. Dr. Jeanette Scott, Chair – SD No. 47 (Powell River) August 29, 2013
 - xiii. Marieze Tarr, Chair/Sylvia Slater, President – SD No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen) July 8, 2013
 - xiv. Ida Campbell, Vice-Chair – SD No. 60 (Peace River North) September 4, 2013
 - xv. G. Wayne Hunter, Chair – SD No. 63 (Saanich) June 25, 2013
 - xvi. Michele Babchuk, Chair – SD No. 72 (Campbell River) June 26, 2013
 - xvii. Kathleen Karpuk, Vice-Chair – SD No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) July 22 & July 23, 2013
 - xviii. Edie Heinrichs, Chair – SD No. 75 (Mission) June 26, 2013
3. Ordering of Agenda
4. Invitation for Public Input to matters on the Agenda

B – CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. June 26, 2013 ITEM 2

C – PRESENTATIONS

D – DELEGATIONS

E – CHAIR REPORT

F – DEFERRED ITEMS

G – TRUSTEE MOTIONS

H – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - b) Deputy Superintendent
 - i. 2013 - 2014 Kanaka Creek School Calendar Revision ITEM 3
 - c) Secretary Treasurer
 - i. Capital Amendment Bylaw No. 126633 – 02
2013/14 Annual Facility Grant – Capital Portion ITEM 4
2. Information Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - b) Deputy Superintendent
 - c) Secretary Treasurer

I – COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Committees of the Whole
 - a) Finance
 - i. 2012 - 2013 Financial Statements ITEM 5
 - b) Budget
2. Committee & Advisory Committee Reports
 - a) Aboriginal Education
 - b) Board Policy Development
 - c) District Student Advisory
 - d) Education
 - e) French Immersion Advisory
 - f) Inclusive Education

J – QUESTION PERIOD

1. Trustee Questions
2. Staff Questions
3. Employee Group Questions
4. DPAC Questions
5. Public Questions

K – TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. BC School Trustees' Association Provincial Council
- a) BCSTA Motion Timelines
2. District Parent Advisory Council
3. Joint Parks and Leisure Services
4. Municipal Advisory & Accessibility
5. Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council
6. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation
7. Social Planning Advisory:
http://www.mapleridge.ca/EN/main/municipal/728/9982/spac_agenda_minutes.html
8. Tzu Chi Foundation
9. Youth Society
10. Other Board Liaison Representative Reports
- a) Good News Items

ITEM 6

L – OTHER BUSINESS

1. Public Disclosure of Closed Meeting Business

M – ADJOURNMENT

To: Board of Education

From: Chairperson
Mike Murray

Re: **OPENING PROCEDURES**

Date: September 11, 2013
(Public Board Meeting)

Information/Decision

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CORRESPONDENCE (Information Item)

- i. BCSTA Boards of Education Survey - Trustee Remuneration/Meals/Mileage
- ii. Peter Fassbender – Minister of Education July 31, 2013
- iii. Frank Lento, Chair – SD No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay)
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- xiv. Ida Campbell, Vice-Chair – SD No. 60 (Peace River North) September 4, 2013
- xv. G. Wayne Hunter, Chair – SD No. 63 (Saanich) June 25, 2013
- xvi. Michele Babchuk, Chair – SD No. 72 (Campbell River) June 26, 2013
- xvii. Kathleen Karpuk, Vice-Chair – SD No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) July 22 & July 23, 2013
- xviii. Edie Heinrichs, Chair – SD No. 75 (Mission) June 26, 2013

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information.

Attachments

ORDERING OF AGENDA (Decision Item)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Agenda be ordered as circulated.

3. Invitation for Public Input to matters on the Agenda

BRITISH COLUMBIA BOARDS OF EDUCATION
Remuneration
2013 Survey (Compiled by BCSTA as of May 8, 2013)

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
BCSTA						
SD05 (Southeast Kootenay)	15500	14000	13125	Prod account 1500/yr		Average of Provincial remuneration based on BCSTA survey results if approved by the Board.
SD06 (Rocky Mountain)	\$13,963	\$11,377	\$10,343	Expenses based on claims submitted, personal accident insurance premium		Based on increase to BC's CPI - 2011/12 increase deferred by the Board.
SD08 (Kootenay Lake)	10455	9584	8713			Board motion from time to time
SD10 (Arrow Lakes)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD19 (Revelstoke)	9007	8444	7881	3000 per year professional development allocation		Indexed to Teacher Salaries

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD20 (Kootenay-Columbia)	13688	11660	10646	3500	Travel/Pro D budget is \$ 3,500 per trustee Expense claims are required to access these funds	In the year of a general Board of Education election the committee will set the annual remuneration as per SD20 Policy Regulation 5.10.1R, Board Remuneration Review Committee. In non-election years remuneration for Board Chair, Vice-Chair and Trustees will be increased by the twelve (12) month average of the British Columbia Consumer Price Index from December to November effective December 1 of the non-election year.
SD22 (Vernon)	13600	12100	10600	None	Based on Board policy 1.0.1	Provincial Consumer price Index and for the past couple of years trustees would vote against increase resulting from the consumer price index work because of the zero and zero employee collective mandates.

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD23 (Central Okanagan)	20148	18775	17870		Cell phone, fax machine and pro-d costs up to \$1,500/year.	Average of all employee groups.
SD27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)	16000	13500	12500	plus one round trip km paid from home to BO	Remuneration is currently under review by the Board	
SD28 (Quesnel)	\$13,357.43	\$12,244.32	\$11,131.29	Computer connectivity Fee \$35 per month	A computer connectivity fee of \$35.00 per month is paid to Trustees.	B.C. Consumer Prince Index of the previous year along with recent wage settlements involving the Quesnel District Teachers' Association, CUPE Local 4990 and School District 28 Excluded Staff.
SD33 (Chilliwack)	19800	18900	18000	2500 600	2500 - Individual Pro D 600 - Electronic Communication	

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD34 (Abbotsford)	26,500	24,000	21,500	Cell Phone Internet Service at home Public Events		A Trustee Indemnity Committee is formed every January in an election year to review Trustee remuneration and expenses. The Committee is composed of a Chair and 4 other members, comprised of any of the follow: -one rep from UFV - one member of the DPAC - one rep from the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce -One Elected official from the City of Abbotsford -one member of the Abbotsford Foundation -one rep from the general public
SD35 (Langley)	20,110	19,110	18,110	2000	2000 each for travel and conference registration	Haven't had any for the last few years due to the deficit.
SD36 (Surrey)	33400	31900	30400		Trustees are permitted to spend up to \$2,500 annually to attend pro-d events. Not all Trustees spend the full amount.	Reviewed annually in June (changes effective July 1st). Based on Vancouver Consumer Price Index - changes made to the nearest \$100
SD37 (Delta)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD38 (Richmond)	23782.25	22699.25	21691.5		One third of stipend is not taxable.	Based on Vancouver CPI at end of December.
SD39 (Vancouver)	\$27,444	\$25,333	\$25,333		1/3 non-taxable 2/3 taxable	Based on Vancouver Consumer Price Index
SD40 (New Westminister)	24513	23013	21513			Exempt compensation review (typically, remuneration to trustees in the Metro region and to City Council in New Westminister)
SD41 (Burnaby)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)	\$21,955	\$20,899	\$19,303			CPI/Board Motion
SD43 (Coquitlam)	40,343	38,509	36,675			Trustee base is determine on the basis of the average compensation of the Tri-Cities City Councils. Chair allowance is 10% over the trustee base and the Vice Chair is 5% over the trustee base.
SD44 (North Vancouver)	24163	22895	22176			Remuneration is automatically adjusted July 1st of each year by the percentage increase in the Vancouver CPI.
SD45 (West Vancouver)	22,346	20,711	20,165	Cable/Internet: \$420/year Travel: \$2,000/year Pro-D: \$500/year	Cable/Internet paid each year, travel and pro-d paid when expense claims submitted.	Adjusted every July 01, based on the Canadian Consumer Price Index

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD46 (Sunshine Coast)	16908	14813	13313			Board Honorariums were increased to provincial average as of December 1, 2010. No increases have been made since. According to board policy: "At the beginning of the second year of each Board's term, the Chair will strike an Ad Hoc committee to review trustee honorariums and the committee shall bring recommendations to the Board on or before the regular Board meeting in March of that year."
SD47 (Powell River)	\$14,535	\$12,495	\$10,892		Cover home internet use	Reviewed regularly and compared to other groups within the organization
SD48 (Sea to Sky)	Additional \$4,000	Additional \$1,000	Varies Depending on Electoral Area		SLRD Area C \$13,598; SLRD Area D \$11,319; Village of Pemberton \$13,254; District of Squamish \$11,135; Resort Municipality of Whistler \$12,470	Periodic Review
SD49 (Central Coast)	10924	9363	7803	N/A		No method, last increase from rates stated above July 2009

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD50 (Haida Gwaii)	\$10 400	\$8 900	\$7 400	per diems.	Payments for full and half day 'call outs'	Board Determined
SD51 (Boundary)	12,602	11,421	10,239			Based on Teacher Increase
SD52 (Prince Rupert)	12918	11475	10245	75	\$75 per month "communications" allowance.	Based on an average of Northern districts.
SD53 (Okanagan Similkameen)	Remuneration 7498; exp allowance 3749	Remuneration 6438; exp allowance 3219	Remuneration 6085; exp allowance 3042	\$75 for 1/2 day; \$150 for full day (see below)	Remuneration for out-of-district meetings and conferences on behalf of the board and in-district special meetings.	
SD54 (Bulkley Valley)	12,250	10,210	9,189		under review last increase January 2009 increase automatic unless board votes to not increase....which they've done each year	Annual. December BC CPI. effective July of each

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD57 (Prince George)	17000	15500``	14000	Trustees will be reimbursed for the following expenses: Printer paper, to be obtained upon request from the reception desk. Consumable printer supplies to be reimbursed upon presentation of a receipt.		Our Policy does not specify the manner in which remuneration increases are determined.
SD58 (Nicola-Similkameen)	14500	13250	12000			
SD59 (Peace River South)	17258	15584	13920			Provincial CPI
SD60 (Peace River North)	15874	14338	12801			BC Consumer Price Index less 1%
SD61 (Greater Victoria)	20424	18924	17424			Remuneration is reviewed every three years based on the average of the five comparable districts which include Central Okanagan, Abbotsford, Langley, Richmond and Burnaby.
SD62 (Sooke)	12000	11000	10000			Informal review on an annual basis with other Districts.

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD63 (Saanich)	14566	10612	10612			Increase by no less than the economic increase to CUPE support staff wages in any year.
SD64 (Gulf Islands)	14946.04	13878.48	12810.96			Provincial Consumer Price Index.
SD67 (Okanagan Skaha)	13,290	12220	10620			Board decides each year
SD68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)	\$17,735.74	\$15,735.74	\$15,735.74	\$45/month Internet Allowance Dental & Extended Health Coverage for Trustees who opt for this benefit		The increase in September is the COLA (Cost of Living Allowance) which is tied to the Consumer Price Index.
SD69 (Qualicum)	12960	9720	9720	2400 per trustee (budgeted amount)	Other payments is a budget of \$2400 per trustee for travel and other expenses. These must be receipted expenses, not an allowance and therefore has not been included in the Chair, Vice-Chair and Trustee amount above.	Set by board motion of the outgoing board. There is no automatic mechanism for increases.
SD70 (Alberni)	13160		10381		No set expense allowance. Expenses are submitted and paid, if reasonable	Board determines increases

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD71 (Comox Valley)	13500	12000	10500		Use of cell phone(BB)/laptop	annual review brought forward by S/T
SD72 (Campbell River)	12350	10740	10065			Increases are based on a formula comparing the per student remuneration across all other island districts. The adjustments are proposed annually and voted on by the board in June.
SD73 (Kamloops/Thompson)	13657	12977	12297			Remuneration is based on the 75th percentile of the 9 comparable school districts in the 10-20K FTE range and determinate on the Provincial climate of other partner group salary increases.
SD74 (Gold Trail)	12240	11220	10200	Chair Communication allowance: 1000; Trustee Communication allowance: 750		
SD75 (Mission)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD78 (Fraser-Cascade)	13106.16	10921.8	10921.8	40 per month for internet	Trustees carry forward their unused pro-d budget	Vancouver CPI every January

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD79 (Cowichan Valley)					We currently have one Trustee, appointed by the Provincial Government on July 1, 2013. His stipend was arranged by the Government.	
SD81 (Fort Nelson)	11,710	102,010	102,010	15,000 Board Travel Budget 2,000 Professional Development per Trustee per term, additional funds available if needed		
SD82 (Coast Mountains)	13800	12000	10800			by Board resolution
SD83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)	12048	10952	9855			Historically based on Provincial CPI, however Board has chosen not to increase remuneration since September 2010
SD84 (Vancouver Island West)	\$12,000 annually	\$10,750	\$9,740			Last increase to Trustee remuneration was in 2004. Increase is made as budget and political ethic allows.
SD85 (Vancouver Island North)	12938	11860	10782			Remuneration will increase on July 1, based on BC CPI for the previous calendar year.

Board of Education	Chair	Vice-Chair	Trustee	Other payments	Comments	How are remuneration increases determined?
SD87 (Stikine)	10000	8600	7550	\$150 per full day meeting	Plus \$150 per full day meeting (\$75 per 1/2 day meeting)	
SD91 (Nechako Lakes)	11000	10000	9000			Have kept the amount consistent with prior years
SD92 (Nisga'a)	11628	10980	10344	2000	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	NONE
SD93 (Conseil Scolaire Francophone)	\$16,000	\$14,000	\$14,000			

BRITISH COLUMBIA BOARDS OF EDUCATION
Meals
2013 Survey (Compiled by BCSTA as of May 8, 2013)

Board of Education	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Full Day	Comments
BCSTA	10	17	23	50	Claim \$50.00 per full day on BCSTA business. Where meals are provided by the association, deductions shall be at the following rates: \$10.00 for breakfast, \$17.00 for lunch, \$23.00 for dinner. Where charges for taxes or service result in the daily amount expended exceeding the per diem, the additional amount may be reimbursed upon submission of receipts.
SD05 (Southeast Kootenay)	10	15	25	50	
SD06 (Rocky Mountain)	13 (in district); 16 (out of district)	15 (in district); 19 (out of district)	19 (in district); 25 (out of district)	39 (in district); 50 (out of district)	Breakfast & Lunch: 24 (in district); 30 (out of district) Lunch & Dinner: 30 (in district); 39 (out of district) Dinner & Breakfast: 28 (in district); 36 (out of district)
SD08 (Kootenay Lake)	10	17	23	50	
SD10 (Arrow Lakes)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD19 (Revelstoke)	10	17	23		
SD20 (Kootenay-Columbia)	10	17	23	50	
SD22 (Vernon)	10	15	20	45	
SD23 (Central Okanagan)	10	17	23	50	
SD27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)	10	15	25	50	submit either receipts or meal allowance. Plus 6.00 incidental expense for full day out of district
SD28 (Quesnel)	10	17	23	50	
SD33 (Chilliwack)	10	17	24.5	51.5	

Board of Education	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Full Day	Comments
SD34 (Abbotsford)	8	14	25	47	
SD35 (Langley)	10	12	20		also provide 8 for overnight
SD36 (Surrey)	16	21	33	70	
SD37 (Delta)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD38 (Richmond)	10	17	23	50	Based on BCSTA per diems in effect.
SD39 (Vancouver)	\$10	\$15	\$25	\$50	per VSB policy
SD40 (New Westminster)				100	
SD41 (Burnaby)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)	\$10.00	\$14.00	\$30.00	\$54.00	
SD43 (Coquitlam)				50	A general meal allowance of up to 50 is provided.
SD44 (North Vancouver)	20	20	30	50	
SD45 (West Vancouver)	12	15	25	40	Breakfast and dinner: 37 Lunch and dinner: 40
SD46 (Sunshine Coast)	10	17	23		
SD47 (Powell River)	10	15	20	50	
SD48 (Sea to Sky)	10	17	23	50	BCSTA Rates
SD49 (Central Coast)	12	15	23	50	No meal allowance given if meals are included in conference fee
SD50 (Haida Gwaii)	\$22.75	22.75	30.5	\$51.50	As per staff rate.
SD51 (Boundary)	10	17	23	50	
SD52 (Prince Rupert)	10	17	23	50	Follows current BCSTA policy
SD53 (Okanagan Similkameen)	10 inside/outside district	17 outside / 10 inside district	23 outside / 15 inside district	N/A	
SD54 (Bulkley Valley)	10	15	25	50	not provided where event provides meal

Board of Education	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Full Day	Comments
SD57 (Prince George)	22	22	28.5	49	Breakfast and lunch only - 30.00 Lunch and dinner only - 36.50 Breakfast and dinner only - 36.50 All meal allowance rates are effective July 1 and are determined in accordance with provincial government rates as at April 1 of the same year
SD58 (Nicola-Similkameen)	9	15	21	50	
SD59 (Peace River South)	10	17	23	50	Tied to BCSTA rate
SD60 (Peace River North)	11	19	26	56	
SD61 (Greater Victoria)	10	15	25	50	
SD62 (Sooke)	10	17	23	50	Based on District policy.
SD63 (Saanich)	8	12	19	43	When less than a full day is involved, the meal allowance is as above plus an allowance of 4.00 for gratuities.
SD64 (Gulf Islands)	25	15	10	50	
SD67 (Okanagan Skaha)	10	17	23	50	
SD68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)	\$10	\$17	\$23	\$50	
SD69 (Qualicum)	10	17	23	55	Meals are linked to the BCSTA rates
SD70 (Alberni)	10	17	23	50	
SD71 (Comox Valley)	11.5	15	25	51.5	
SD72 (Campbell River)	10	17	23	50	
SD73 (Kamloops/Thompson)	10	15	25	50	
SD74 (Gold Trail)	10	12	18	40	Out of District: Breakfast 12 Lunch 15 Dinner 23 Per Diem 50
SD75 (Mission)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD78 (Fraser-Cascade)	11.5	17.25	28.75	57.5	Just increased in 2013 by Board motion. initiated by a Trustee who found the allowance prior too low.
SD79 (Cowichan Valley)	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	
SD81 (Fort Nelson)	10	15	25	60	10.00 for incidentals

Board of Education	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Full Day	Comments
SD82 (Coast Mountains)	10	12	28	50	
SD83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)	10	15	25	50	
SD84 (Vancouver Island West)	\$15	\$17	\$25	\$57	Meal allowance is not permitted if meals are provided in conference fees.
SD85 (Vancouver Island North)	9	15	21	50	
SD87 (Stikine)	14	19	27	60	
SD91 (Nechako Lakes)	10	15	20	50	
SD92 (Nisga'a)	10	12	28	50	
SD93 (Conseil Scolaire Francophone)	18	22	28		

BRITISH COLUMBIA BOARDS OF EDUCATION
Mileage Rates
2013 Survey (Compiled by BCSTA as of May 8, 2013)

Board of Education	Trustee Mileage Allowance	Mileage Allowance Tied To	Other (please specify)	Comments/Restrictions
BCSTA	0.54	Federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate		AGM 2006 Resolution #34 states "That BCSTA use the federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate, as defined under <i>Regulation 7306</i> of the <i>Income Tax Act</i> , as the benchmark for setting its mileage rate."
SD05 (Southeast Kootenay)	0.5	N/A		
SD06 (Rocky Mountain)	\$0.50/km.	N/A		Reimbursed for airfare when this cost is cheaper than milage.
SD08 (Kootenay Lake)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD 10 (Arrow Lakes)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD19 (Revelstoke)	.54/km	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD20 (Kootenay-Columbia)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		Expense claims are required Mileage paid is allocated against each trustee's \$ 3,500 budget (travel/pro-d)
SD22 (Vernon)	\$.54/km	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD23 (Central Okanagan)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)	50		Teacher Contract	.50 paved and .55 gravel

Board of Education	Trustee Mileage Allowance	Mileage Allowance Tied To	Other (please specify)	Comments/Restrictions
BCSTA	0.54	Federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate		AGM 2006 Resolution #34 states "That BCSTA use the federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate, as defined under <i>Regulation 7306</i> of the <i>Income Tax Act</i> , as the benchmark for setting its mileage rate."
SD05 (Southeast Kootenay)	0.5	N/A		
SD06 (Rocky Mountain)	\$0.50/km.	N/A		Reimbursed for airfare when this cost is cheaper than milage.
SD08 (Kootenay Lake)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD28 (Quesnel)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		A portion of Trustee stipends is intended to cover expenses. For Trustees, when in-District travel exceeds 500 kilometres per month, any additional travel will be reimbursed at the current BCSTA rate upon submission of a travel log.
SD33 (Chilliwack)	0.5	Staff rate		
SD34 (Abbotsford)	0.5	Staff rate		
SD35 (Langley)	0.52	Staff rate		None
SD36 (Surrey)	0.53		Federal Government Auto expense rate - annual review Jan., effective Feb. 1st	
SD37 (Delta)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD38 (Richmond)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		Mileage is paid for travel outside of the school district.
SD39 (Vancouver)	\$0.54/km	Staff rate		VSB policy
SD40 (New Westminster)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		Typically limited to conferences and meetings attended on behalf of the Board
SD41 (Burnaby)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Board of Education	Trustee Mileage Allowance	Mileage Allowance Tied To	Other (please specify)	Comments/Restrictions
BCSTA	0.54	Federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate		AGM 2006 Resolution #34 states "That BCSTA use the federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate, as defined under <i>Regulation 7306</i> of the <i>Income Tax Act</i> , as the benchmark for setting its mileage rate."
SD05 (Southeast Kootenay)	0.5	N/A		
SD06 (Rocky Mountain)	\$0.50/km.	N/A		Reimbursed for airfare when this cost is cheaper than milage.
SD08 (Kootenay Lake)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)	\$0.52	Staff rate		
SD43 (Coquitlam)	None	N/A		
SD44 (North Vancouver)	0.5	Staff rate		Mileage claimed for travel outside of the school district only.
SD45 (West Vancouver)	\$0.52/KM	Other, please specify:	CRA max, SD prov avg as of July 01, 2012	We are currently reviewing our mileage rate and will be raising it to \$0.54/km as of July 01, 2013.
SD46 (Sunshine Coast)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD47 (Powell River)	0.51	Staff rate		
SD48 (Sea to Sky)	0.5	N/A		
SD49 (Central Coast)	\$0.50 per km	N/A		
SD50 (Haida Gwaii)	0.52	Staff rate		
SD51 (Boundary)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD52 (Prince Rupert)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD53 (Okanagan Similkameen)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		

Board of Education	Trustee Mileage Allowance	Mileage Allowance Tied To	Other (please specify)	Comments/Restrictions
BCSTA	0.54	Federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate		AGM 2006 Resolution #34 states "That BCSTA use the federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate, as defined under <i>Regulation 7306</i> of the <i>Income Tax Act</i> , as the benchmark for setting its mileage rate."
SD05 (Southeast Kootenay)	0.5	N/A		
SD06 (Rocky Mountain)	\$0.50/km.	N/A		Reimbursed for airfare when this cost is cheaper than milage.
SD08 (Kootenay Lake)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD54 (Bulkley Valley)	0.52		not increased last time	
SD57 (Prince George)	0.5		Province of BC rate	
SD58 (Nicola-Similkameen)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD59 (Peace River South)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD60 (Peace River North)	0.52	Staff rate		
SD61 (Greater Victoria)	0.58	Staff rate		
SD62 (Sooke)		BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD63 (Saanich)	0.53	Other, please specify:	Board Policy	
SD64 (Gulf Islands)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD67 (Okanagan Skaha)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)	.54/km	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		

Board of Education	Trustee Mileage Allowance	Mileage Allowance Tied To	Other (please specify)	Comments/Restrictions
BCSTA	0.54	Federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate		AGM 2006 Resolution #34 states "That BCSTA use the federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate, as defined under <i>Regulation 7306</i> of the <i>Income Tax Act</i> , as the benchmark for setting its mileage rate."
SD05 (Southeast Kootenay)	0.5	N/A		
SD06 (Rocky Mountain)	\$0.50/km.	N/A		Reimbursed for airfare when this cost is cheaper than milage.
SD08 (Kootenay Lake)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD69 (Qualicum)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		No restrictions on Trustees, but for senior admin there is inconsistency. Some have allowances, some are allowed to claim mileage per their contract and some can only claim mileage out of district.
SD70 (Alberni)	0.5	Staff rate		
SD71 (Comox Valley)	52	Other, please specify:	"current provincial govnt"	
SD72 (Campbell River)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		WE adjust our rates July 1 to the BCSTA amount.
SD73 (Kamloops/Thompson)	0.52	Staff rate		Mileage rates are reviewed annually by the Secretary Treasurer
SD74 (Gold Trail)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD75 (Mission)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SD78 (Fraser-Cascade)	.53/km	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		no restrictions although car-pooling is encouraged
SD79 (Cowichan Valley)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD81 (Fort Nelson)	0.45	Staff rate		

Board of Education	Trustee Mileage Allowance	Mileage Allowance Tied To	Other (please specify)	Comments/Restrictions
BCSTA	0.54	Federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate		AGM 2006 Resolution #34 states "That BCSTA use the federal government's maximum allowable mileage rate, as defined under <i>Regulation 7306</i> of the <i>Income Tax Act</i> , as the benchmark for setting its mileage rate."
SD05 (Southeast Kootenay)	0.5	N/A		
SD06 (Rocky Mountain)	\$0.50/km.	N/A		Reimbursed for airfare when this cost is cheaper than milage.
SD08 (Kootenay Lake)	0.53	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD82 (Coast Mountains)	\$0.50/km	Other, please specify:	Board Policy	as per Board Policy, mileage will only be reimbursed up to the value of the most economic means of travel
SD83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)	\$0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD84 (Vancouver Island West)	\$0.50 per km	N/A		
SD85 (Vancouver Island North)	0.5	N/A		
SD87 (Stikine)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD91 (Nechako Lakes)	0.54	BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD92 (Nisga'a)		BCSTA rate of \$0.54/km (CRA maximum)		
SD93 (Conseil Scolaire Francophon)	\$0,50/KM	Staff rate		



July 31, 2013

Ref: 168836

To: Board Chairs
Superintendents
Secretary-Treasurers

Dear Partners in Education:

As Minister of Education, I have committed to being open about the process and sharing details as government works to pursue its framework for a 10-year agreement with BC teachers. It is important for interested parties to share the same understanding as we work towards this important settlement.

In this regard, I write to advise that government has appointed a public administrator to assume responsibility for governance of the British Columbia Public Schools Employers' Association (BCPSEA). This is an interim measure and provides a means, consistent with the accreditation of BCPSEA as the bargaining agent for boards of education, for advancing efforts to secure a long term teachers' collective agreement with the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (BCTF). I have also invited the BCPSEA trustees to remain in an advisory capacity to government and the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) as we move forward.

There is broad recognition of the need to transform our public education system in the coming years to better serve students and our communities. Ongoing labour strife distracts everyone from this important goal.

Last fall, boards of education, through the BCSTA, conducted a comprehensive review of teacher collective bargaining. Government also received submissions from the BCTF and other education sector groups, including BCPSEA. In January 2013, the BC government put forward (and made an election commitment to) a framework for a 10-year agreement to improve the bargaining process, create long-term labour stability, and advance education policy and learning improvements in BC public schools.

The proposed innovations include many ideas previously proposed by the BCTF such as the full right to strike, negotiation of more matters at local bargaining tables, improvements to the bargaining process, and enabling the BCTF to negotiate directly with government on provincial matters. Government plans to introduce legislative amendments to implement these changes in the next legislative session.

.../2

These innovations will require adjustments to BCPSEA's role and structure, along with administrative and other measures to support direct bargaining between the BCTF and government. To be clear, government recognizes that BCPSEA needs to be part of the solution and will work closely with trustees through the BCSTA to realign the organization and its functions to best support boards in labour relations matters. There will always be day-to-day labour relations issues where boards of education will benefit from BCPSEA's expert advice and BCPSEA will continue to play an important supporting role in bargaining, both provincially and locally.

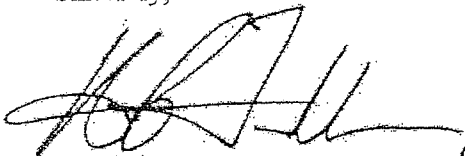
Soon after my appointment, I met with the BCSTA and BCPSEA to begin discussions on how to move forward. At these meetings, I made it clear that government recognizes, and is committed to, a shared governance model with boards of education. I also made it clear that government would be taking the steps necessary to pursue its election commitments. These include formally rescinding the bargaining mandate that BCPSEA had been working under and appointing a provincial lead to facilitate discussions on the path forward.

The next step is to ensure that when bargaining resumes this coming September, BCPSEA is positioned to effectively implement its new bargaining mandate, and to prepare to transition to its new role in a restructured K-12 bargaining process. Effective immediately, Cabinet considers it to be in the public interest to appoint, and has appointed Michael Marchbank, CEO of the Health Employers' Association of BC as the Public Administrator at BCPSEA under Section 9.1 of the *Public Sector Employers Act*. Mr. Marchbank will assume all responsibilities of the BCPSEA Board of Directors. This is an interim measure until such time the necessary legislation is in place to restructure the bargaining process. During this time, government will also be working with the BCSTA to fully canvass boards on changes to BCPSEA's role.

While the appointment of the public administrator ceases their statutory and legal obligations, I fully recognize and value the experience and expertise of the school trustees who served on the BCPSEA Board of Directors. Consequently, I have invited the trustee board members to remain in an advisory capacity to government and the BCSTA in the interim period while we redefine the important role for BCPSEA for the future.

Thank you for taking the time to read this important update and I look forward to working with school trustees, teachers, parents and other key stakeholders who care about long term stability in our schools. For more information on the government's proposed framework and related updates, please visit www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/ministries/education/.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Fassbender', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Fassbender
Minister



SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TREASURER

Minister Peter Fassbender
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender:

Re: K-12 International Education Reforms

School District No. 5 is greatly encouraged by the high priority the Government of the Province of BC places on the role of international education in its BC Jobs Plan. The Ministry of Education's target of increasing the enrolment of international students by 50% by 2015/16 may be overly ambitious, but the intent of facilitating growth in the international education sector is certainly very welcome.

We also appreciate the opportunity for the K-12 international education sector to provide feedback to the Ministry through the roundtables that were held last spring throughout the province.

Having said that, though, there is nothing contained within the summary of those roundtable discussions that would suggest that the Ministry's efforts would result in significant growth in the enrolment of international students. Our main concern is the Ministry's proposal to introduce a province-wide, per student levy that would presumably be used to fund the Ministry's initiatives. Depending on how it was handled, such a fee would either make our international education fees more expensive and less competitive or would make our program less viable financially.

The only way that such a per student levy could be worthwhile would be if the Ministry implemented a marketing plan that were to increase our enrolment sufficiently to cover the cost of the levy. For example, it would be worthwhile if the Ministry were to develop and promote a provincial international education brand and were to be a visible presence at international education fairs and events. However, (1) our international education program is already running at capacity (limited by the availability of quality homestays) and (2) it is not clear how any marketing efforts of the Ministry might significantly build on the results already obtained by the vigorous marketing efforts of some 40 international education programs throughout the province. If the Ministry is confident in its ability to increase enrolment through its own efforts, then it would seem to follow that the additional marketing costs could be recovered through tax revenue generated by the increased numbers of students.

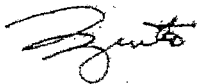
We strongly reject any proposal to fix tuition fee rates across the province. If school districts are to market their international education programs independently, then they must retain the right to set their own rates.

We also question the need for the Ministry to put much effort into the development of quality assurance standards when the BC public school international education programs already have an enviable record for providing outstanding experiences for students from around the world.

One area where the Ministry could be of great assistance would be to provide advice to school districts about risk management and liability issues. Every international education program could benefit from some standardized wording about the legal issues that we all face.

Again, thank you for the Ministry's support of international education! We look forward to seeing the results of your deliberations on these important matters.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Lento', with a stylized, cursive script.

Frank Lento
Chair
Board of Education
School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay)

School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake)

Board Chair

570 Johnstone, Nelson, B.C. V1L 6J2

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July 26, 2013

BCSTA Board of Directors
BC School Trustees Association
4th Floor-1580 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V6J 5K9

To the BCSTA Board of Directors:

RE: BCSTA request for input on bargaining

The Board of Education, SD8(Kootenay Lake) made the following motion at a special meeting on July 26, 2013:

"That the letter to the BCSTA with amendments and edits that do not change the intent be sent to the BCSTA, with copies to all school districts in the province of BC, the BCPSEA Board and the Kootenay-Boundary Branch of the BCSTA, and be included in the correspondence of the August 27 Board Meeting of the SD8 (Kootenay Lake) Board of Education."

The SD8 Board of Education does not believe that BCSTA has the mandate from the Boards of the province to move in the direction that is being taken at this time. While the Teacher Collective Bargaining Task Force report provided insights to inform future discussions, we do not believe that report gives BCSTA the authority to take a seat at the bargaining table, even when considered together with the BCSTA Foundational Statements, previous member resolutions and the Protocol of Recognition with the Provincial Government. The changes that are being suggested have very large implications to the Boards of the province and any direction taken at this time should be from a direct motion through full debate.

BCSTA is mandated to advocate on behalf of Boards of Education in BC. The role of advocacy is very important to us. We believe BCSTA needs to maintain a fair distance from the work that is taking place at the bargaining table. We fear that by becoming co-governors in the manner described by BCSTA and the Minister of Education, our ability to advocate effectively as publicly elected officials will be restricted. We also believe taking this action will erode the relationship we have with the BCTF that has been achieved and strengthened by the AiC process. We need BCSTA to retain a fair distance from the bargaining table to continue to work with the BCTF and with the Ministry of Education to keep the focus on building positive relationships.

We believe that the decisions being contemplated regarding changes to the structure and purposes of BCSTA and BCPSEA are too important to be dealing with through regional meetings. To add to our frustration, some regional meetings are to be held by teleconference. We appreciate being asked for our input but with decisions such as this, we would like to hear from Boards and be part of a discussion and debate that involves us all as this will impact us all. We are asking that BCSTA consider giving us the ability to meet and discuss the implications that are being suggested in a venue that respects our need to be informed and provide direction through full discussion and debate.

We believe that the BCSTA executive has lost sight of the original intent of BCPSEA. We would also like to remind BCSTA that this organization lobbied for the creation of BCPSEA to do exactly what is being taken away from BCPSEA now. We believe that the BCPSEA staff and Board have done a tremendous job in supporting the work of Boards in labour relation and legal issues. It is disappointing to see that through all of the discussions and reviews on teacher bargaining in BC it is currently being perceived by the Ministry of Education, supported by BCSTA, that the role of the employer in the bargaining process is the one that needs to be diminished to promote negotiation stability. The SD8 Board of Education believes the AiC was a strong indication of how we are a part of the solution, not a part of the problem, and we are taking great offence to the directions that are being taken at this time. The changes that are currently taking place within BCPSEA will have a serious impact on the support that is provided to school districts and Boards have been very vocal in emphasizing the importance of retaining this support. While we understand and respect the Ministry of Education is seeking a change to the bargaining structure, we are disappointed that we have not heard BCSTA stress the importance of the role of the employer in the bargaining process. We expect that BCSTA would strongly support the role of the BCPSEA Board of Directors, through the expertise of the staff of the employers organization, to have a solid place at the bargaining table with full rights to influence bargaining directions and processes rather than the advocacy role that is being suggested. We don't understand why our place at the bargaining table is being diminished and why BCSTA is supporting this move. The current bargaining mandate from the Ministry is very aggressive and we feel that a conversation around the structures of our organizations is taking the focus away from discussing how we are going to ensure negotiation stability for the students of our Province.

We would like to see the Board of Directors of BCSTA and BCPSEA work together to develop a process that allows us to have a full discussion about the structure of our two organizations. We would like to see a process that would address the concerns listed above and give us, the Boards of Education, the ability to have a say in how this structure would look. We knew from the Ministry's bargaining plan announced in the spring that this discussion would be needed and we are disappointed that action from BCSTA is being taken at this late date in the summer. In addition, because major changes to BCPSEA's bargaining status will require enabling legislation, we want to ensure that BCSTA advocates based on the direction provided by Boards of the Province following thorough consultation. We also request that full advocacy be given on behalf of the BCPSEA Board at this time to ensure continued support to Districts.

In summary, we request that BCSTA do the following:

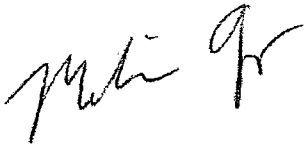
- Maintain a fair distance from the bargaining table;

School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake)
BCSTA/BCPSEA- BCSTA request for input on bargaining
July 26, 2013 - Page 2

- Advocate for and support the role of BCPSEA Board of Directors and staff in the bargaining process;
- Work with the BCPSEA Board of Directors to provide a forum for discussion and debate that will fully inform and provide direction to our Provincial organization leaders regarding any restructuring of BCSTA and BCPSEA.

It is imperative that we are working together as we move forward in developing any new processes or structures and we are looking forward to further conversations.

Sincerely,



Mel Joy
Board Chair
mjoy@sd8.bc.ca

cc SD8 Board of Education
BCSTA Board of Directors
BCPSEA Board of Directors
All Boards of the Province



School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake)

Board Chair

570 Johnstone, Nelson, B.C. V1L 6J2

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August 8, 2013

Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Honourable Fassbender:

RE: Funding of Independent Schools to Offer Adult Courses

At a previous meeting, the Board of Education of School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake), passed the following motion:

"A letter be written to the Minister of Education relative to the funding of independent schools."

We believe in providing opportunity to quality public education to learners of all ages. We support the letters and points that have already been brought forward in regard to this issue by SD#43 (Coquitlam) and SD#5 (Southeast Kootenay).

In a previous announcement the Ministry has stated that provincial grants for independent schools teaching adults who have not yet graduated will be available by September, 2013. Since 2012, changes have been in effect that restrict funding for public schools to offer only literacy and academic upgrading to adults. By expanding the opportunity and funding to private schools to provide adult education and restricting public schools we believe it shows a higher priority to support private education and this direction goes against the fundamental value that the Board of Education puts towards public education.

We request that the Minister of Education fully support public schools offering more opportunity to adult learners and the funding of independent schools be restricted.

Sincerely,

Mel Joy
Board Chair
mjoy@sd8.bc.ca

cc All BC Boards of Education (BCSTA)
SD8 Board of Education



SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

April 2, 2013

Honorable Don McRae
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 9E2

Dear Minister McRae:

RE: Funding Independent Schools for Non-Graduated Adults

On February 12, 2013, School District 43 (Coquitlam) submitted a letter to you and copied to all BC School Boards, expressing their concerns over the intention to draft a policy that would support the funding of courses for non-graduated adult students through the independent school system. The points that SD43 raised in their letter, and in which we are in full support, are:

1. The funding rate for non-graduated adult learners is 33% less than that for school-aged learners. The course-by-course cost to the district to educate non-graduated adult learners is, however, not 33% less than that of a school-aged learner. The independent schools have a different cost structure and may charge additional tuition costs. This places the public schools in greater financial need when offering competitive services.
2. The work on the Foundations curriculum, which is used to support non-graduated adult learners, was funded in part by BC School District Continuing Education Directors' Association and public school districts. Although not the educational property of individuals or groups, there has been significant investment in time and resources.

In School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay), the population base for purposes of supporting education and other opportunities is such that it cannot support more than one master. Learners who opt for offerings from private schools reduce the funding base required to offer an enriching educational program for students in the public system.

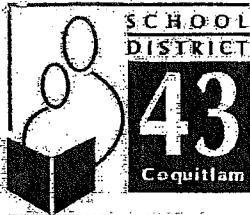
We are committed to offering educational opportunities for non-graduated adults that cannot be readily obtained through the community college. We ask, however, that educational funding practices for non-graduate adults allow us the opportunity to adequately provide those services in rural communities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Lento', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frank Lento
Chairperson of the Board of Education

Cc: Trustees
Boards of Education (c/o BCSTA)
Superintendent



Learning for a Lifetime

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Melissa Hyndes

VICE-CHAIR:

Holly Butterfield

TRUSTEES:

Gail Aity

John J. Keryluk

Brian Robinson

Judy Shirra

Diane Sowden

Geri Wallis

Keith Watkins

February 12, 2013

Minister Don McRae
Ministry of Education
PO BOX 9058 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W9E2

RE: Funding Independent Schools for Non-Graduated Adults

Dear Minister McRae:

It has come to our attention that the Minister of Education has drafted a policy awaiting approval to provide government funding to independent schools for the provision of courses leading to graduation for non-graduated adult students. We wish to request that the Ministry of Education not proceed with this plan.

We have learned that the Minister communicated the intention to make this policy change to the Federation of Independent School Associations of BC (FISA BC) in January 2013. Apparently, it is the Ministry's intention to have this funding in place for programs beginning in September 2013.

We wish to express our concern that block funding will be used to finance private adult education. It is our understanding that independent schools will receive funding for non-graduated adult students based on their group rate and then unlike public schools, have the option to charge tuition fees in addition to that. Currently Boards of Education receive 33% less funding for each adult student compared to school age students. Staffing and program costs are similar for both school age and adult students. We request that, unless Boards of Education receive increased funding to serve adults, this new policy not proceed.

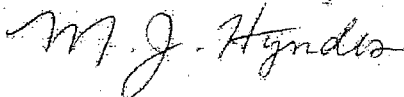
The provincial Foundations curriculum was developed by the Ministry of Education in partnership with public educators from around BC. This work was achieved through significant sacrifice of personal time and public school district resources. The Ministry of Education was unable to fund the development of Performance Standards to support the Foundations Language Arts Curriculum. This important work was funded by the BC School District Continuing Education Directors' Association in partnership with public school districts. Public funds are needed to support public school adult education providers to continue their work to develop performance standards to support the Foundations Literacy Courses and improve student completion rates.

.../2

Letter to Minister of Education
Funding Independent Schools for Non-Graduated Adults
February 8, 2013
Page 2

Given the limited resources available for the funding of adult education in the Province of BC, the significant contribution by the public education system to the development of adult education courses, programs, and standards, and the quality of programs and services provided to adults by the public school system, we request that the Ministry not provide funds to the Independent Schools to serve non-graduated adults.

Yours truly,
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)



Melissa Hyndes
Chair
Board of Education

cc: Board of Education
BC Boards of Education c/o BCSTA
Dave Duerksen, Ministry of Education - Director of Funding
Robin Austin, MLA - Skeena, Education Critic
Mike Fairworth, MLA - Port Coquitlam
Douglas Horne, MLA - Coquitlam/Burke Mountain
Joe Trasolini, MLA - Port Moody/Coquitlam
Diane Thorne, MLA - Coquitlam/Maillardville
Thomas J. Grant, Superintendent



BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23
(CENTRAL OKANAGAN)

1940 Underhill Street, Kelowna, B.C. V1X 5X7

Tel. 250-860-8888 Fax 250-860-9799

Website: www.sd23.bc.ca

"Together We Learn"

June 27, 2013

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender,

At its June 26, 2013 Public Board Meeting, the Central Okanagan Board of Education trustees unanimously agreed to express the Board's concern regarding the appointment of a lead spokesperson on provincial bargaining with the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF).

The Government established an agreed-upon bargaining process that was to conclude by June 30, 2013.

Under the established process, Provincial bargaining talks between BCPSEA and the BCTF have been ongoing for the past five months. Interruption of this process, near its conclusion and without proper consultation with the BCSTA and local Boards of Education, is a cause for concern for the Board of Education as this may stall ongoing discussions at the bargaining table.

Yours sincerely,

Moyra Baxter
Board Chair

cc: Central Okanagan Board of Education Trustees
The Honourable Christy Clark, Premier
The Honourable Dan Ashton, MLA
The Honourable Norm Letnick, MLA
The Honourable Steve Thomson, MLA
Alan Chell, Chair, Board of Directors - BCPSEA
Teresa Rezansoff, President - BCSTA
Alice Rees, President - Central Okanagan Teachers' Association
All BC Boards of Education

Board of Education - Trustees

Moyra Baxter
Julia Fraser

Joyce Brinkerhoff
Christopher L. Gorman

Deb Butler
Murli Pendharkar

Rolli Cacchioni



**Chilliwack
School District** Partners in Learning!

June 27, 2013

Honourable Peter Fassbender
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt.
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Honourable Fassbender:

Congratulations on being appointed Minister of Education. We look forward to working together to realize the BC Education Plan that provides choices for students and further enhances our excellent public education system.

The Board of Education for School District 33 (Chilliwack) at its meeting of Tuesday, June 25, 2013, directed that the Chair communicate its grave concerns that in striving for a historical 10 year labour agreement with teachers, the best interests of students and the implementation flexibility of Boards may be marginalized.

We further urge your Ministry to provide funding for a reasonable increase for our CUPE staff and any wage changes considered for our teaching staff in this round of bargaining. Since government will be bargaining directly with teachers, it is more important than ever that BCSTA, BCPSEA, and school boards are heard and considered in the process.

Any agreement is only successful if all sides have been considered and the delivery of public education can continue to meet ever increasing student needs in the most cost effective manner.

We look forward to a productive and interesting partnership on behalf of our constituents and their children.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walt Krahn'.

Walt Krahn
Chair, SD 33 (Chilliwack)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Silvia Dyck'.

Silvia Dyck
Vice Chair, SD 33 (Chilliwack)

cc: Premier Christy Clark
Alan Chell, President BCPSEA
Teresa Rezansoff, President BCSTA
BCSTA Boards of Education
Clint Johnston, President, Chilliwack Teachers' Association
Rod Isaac, President, CUPE 411

July 3, 2013

The Honorable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 9E2

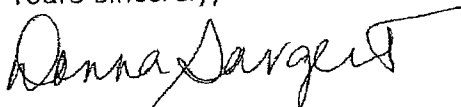
Dear Minister Fassbender:

At its July 2nd, 2013 Board Meeting, the Richmond Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution to send to you this letter expressing our concern regarding the process the government has identified for future collective bargaining with the BCTF.

It is our strong belief that the bargaining framework agreed upon by both BCPSEA and the BCTF, as reflected in the Framework Agreement In-Committee: 2013 Round of Bargaining process, be honoured to its completion. Any deviation from this agreed upon process could be detrimental to the on-going building of a healthy working relationship with our teachers and, in addition, this could result in stalling any ongoing discussions at the bargaining table.

We strongly encourage you to support the completion of the current bargaining framework which has been on-going for the past five months. A successful completion resulting in a settled labour environment will be of mutual benefit to both students and teachers.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. Donna Sargent, Chairperson
On Behalf of the Board of Education (Richmond)

Cc: The Honourable Christy Clark, Premier
Richmond MLAs
Trustees
Alan Chell, President BCPSEA
Teresa Rezanoff, President BCSTA
BCSTA Boards of Education

Board of Education:
Donna Sargent - Chairperson
Debbie Tablotney - Vice Chairperson
Rod Belleza Kenny Chiu Norm Goldstein
Grace Tsang Eric Yung



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

1580 West Broadway

Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

Fax: 604-713-5049

July 3, 2013

By email and original by mail

Ms. Wai Young
Member of Parliament, Vancouver South
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Wai.Young@parl.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Young,

On behalf of the Vancouver School Board, I would like to draw your attention to the serious implications of recent decisions related to the operational model of Canadian Immigration Centres (CIC). Like all Metro Vancouver school districts, the Vancouver school district is currently recruiting and processing students to attend school in September. However, the recent decisions related to the operational model of CIC are having a significant impact on the ability to support the entry and placement of students who are planning to start classes in September.

The CIC office closures in Seoul, Tokyo, and Berlin have resulted in considerable difficulties for the entry of students from these countries, such as delays in communication with families and consultants, and delays in processing study permits causing students to miss flights or to arrive without proper documents to attend orientation and school classes. Students and their parents have been directed to apply for visas online, in English, which ignores language barriers in Japan and Korea in particular.

Recent job action by CIC staff is also resulting in delays for students from countries including Mainland China and throughout Europe. This creates uncertainty and anxiety for students and puts Canada at a competitive disadvantage in the International student market. This could set back years of work by BC school boards to cultivate strong international reputations.

... 2

Board of School Trustees:

Patti Bacchus - Chairperson

Mike Lombardi - Vice-Chairperson

Fraser Ballantyne Ken Clement Ken Denike

Cherie Payne Allan Wong Sophia Woo

Rob Wyden

Ms. Wai Young
Member of Parliament, Vancouver South
July 3, 2013
Page 2

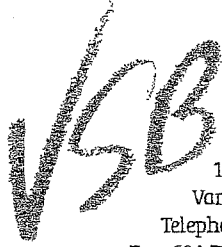
We are requesting your support in advocating for the re-opening of CIC overseas offices to enable international students to have timely, convenient access to the documentation they need to start their studies in BC.

Thank you and best wishes,



Patti Bacchus
Board Chair

c: Canadian School Boards Association
All BC Boards of Education, c/o BCSTA
Vancouver Board of Education Trustees
Steve Cardwell, Superintendent of Schools
Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

1580 West Broadway

Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

Fax: 604-713-5049

August 20, 2013

BCSTA Board of Directors
4th Floor – 1580 West Broadway
Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K9

Dear BCSTA Board of Directors:

I am writing on behalf of the Vancouver Board of Education to communicate our concerns and objections to the directions the BCSTA has taken this summer.

We were surprised and disappointed that BCSTA's leadership decided — without consultation with member boards — to issue a joint statement with government that implied school boards are aligned with government's aggressive bargaining mandate and changes to the bargaining structure. The statement does not reflect the position of our board and we take exception to BCSTA making the decision to represent members in this way, particularly when you have no mandate to do so.

BCSTA has a clear and defined role to advocate for school boards and to support them in their local governance. It does not have a role to bargain or assist government in implementing its political platform. It is our view that BCSTA should be advocating for a respectful relationship between government and school boards, as described in BCSTA's policy 2.11: "... Co-governance implies appropriate inclusion in decision making, which requires a practice of involving boards in planning and seeking input prior to provincial decision making..." (as opposed to the surprise firing of the BCPSEA Board, for example).

BCSTA's policy also states the organization will be a "strong, representational voice for boards of education" and that boards "are our valued clients." Policy 1.31 expresses a commitment to communicating internally and externally, including to the media and general public. Yet aside from its joint statement with government, we have heard a deafening silence from BCSTA's leadership publicly at a time when we need advocacy more than ever. This is deeply disappointing and leaves these "valued clients" very unsatisfied.

From our perspective, it appears the BCSTA leadership has chosen to be more responsive to the needs of government than the dues-paying members it is elected to represent. As the Board of SD 46 (Sunshine Coast) noted in its July 30 letter, the government's electoral success "does not automatically mean our advocacy organization has lost its mandate to openly and publicly lobby against policy initiatives and implementation that undermine the co-governance and autonomy of boards." As SD 46 also states, advocacy is BCSTA's primary role and "it simply cannot be bartered away for confidential collaboration in the back rooms of the provincial government, which is *not* BCSTA's mandate." Yet it appears this is what has occurred.

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Board of School Trustees:

Patti Bacchus - Chairperson

Mike Lombardi - Vice-Chairperson

Fraser Ballantyne Ken Clement Ken Denike

Cherie Payne Allan Wong Sophia Woo

Rob Wynen

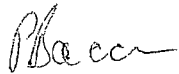
BCSTA Board of Directors
August 20, 2013
Page 2

It is important the BCSTA speak out clearly and publicly regarding its condemnation of the firing of the elected members of the BCPSEA board and this diminished representation in exchange for an undefined "advisory" role. We concur with SD 8 (Kootenay Lake) that BCSTA must maintain a fair distance from the bargaining table in order to retain its ability to effectively advocate for its members.

It is time BCSTA re-commit to performing its role of advocating for boards, rather than trying to expand its role.

Finally, we urge you to reflect and reconsider your recent directions and whether stepping outside your advocacy/support mandate is appropriate in the current climate. We welcome further dialogue on this urgent issue.

Sincerely,



Patti Bacchus
Chairperson of the Board

cc: VSB Trustees
Steve Cardwell, Superintendent of Schools
Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer
All BC Boards of Education – via BCSTA



2013-07-02

Kennedy Stewart, MP
4658 Hastings Street
Burnaby, B.C.
V5C 2K5

Dear Mr. Stewart:

Kennedy

I would like to draw to your attention the serious implications of the current job action related to the delivery of services through the Canadian Immigration Centres. As you know, our School District and School Districts across the metro region are actively engaged in recruiting and placing International students within our schools each year. The welcoming of students from around the world enhances British Columbia's position as an International Centre, develops the 'international-mindedness' and global perspectives within our own students, and provides a significant source of revenue not only to School Districts, but also to the general economy of British Columbia.

Recent decisions related to the operational model of CIC in combination with current job action are having a significant impact on school districts ability to support the entry and placement of these wonderful students, planning to start their studies in Burnaby, British Columbia, or Canada in September 2013.

The closure of offices in Seoul, Korea and Berlin have resulted in considerable difficulties for the entry of students from Asia, including Mainland China, and throughout Europe. The current job action has disrupted the services that are necessary to enable current students to extend their study permits, allowing them to stay for another year, and is also preventing students from receiving their study permits to come to Canada to begin their studies.

This situation is creating a great deal of uncertainty and anxiety within our International student community and will result in students seeking their educational experience in countries other than Canada. This has the potential to undermine our well-established and highly-regarded program in Burnaby and negatively impact our financial position that supports teaching positions for our staff.

I wanted to apprise you of this situation and its impact on our School District, as representative of the impact that is being felt in all School Districts in British Columbia.

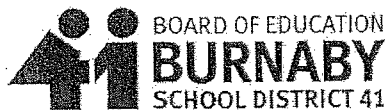
Your support in helping address the issues would be most sincerely appreciated. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions, or clarification you may need in this regard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Baljinder", written in a cursive style.

Baljinder Narang
Board Chair

cc: Alan Chell, President BCPSEA
Teresa Rezansoff, President BCSTA
BCSTA Boards of Education
Kathy Corrigan, MLA Burnaby-Deer Lake
Richard T. Lee, MLA Burnaby North
Raj Chouhan, MLA Burnaby-Edmonds
Jane Jae Kyung Shin, MLA Burnaby-Lougheed



2013-07-04

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Ministry of Education
PO BOX 9058 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender:

Re: 2013 K-12 International Education Regional Roundtables

The district was pleased to participate in the International Education Regional Roundtable meeting on March 14, 2013. The Burnaby Board of Education has a number of concerns regarding several of the recommendations contained in the documents distributed. These documents included the K-12 International Education Strategic Framework & Plan, the Draft K-12 International Education Operations for a Quality Assurance Model, the Draft Semester in BC Requirement, and the Draft K-12 International Education Financial Models.

Along with many other school districts in this Province, Burnaby's Board of Education has embraced the government's initiatives to encourage Boards of Education to generate revenue and become more entrepreneurial. We understood that the government supported these successes that generate revenue to support these valuable programs and services.

The district is concerned about the changes to the annual Financial and Marketing reports to the Ministry. The district has concerns that as part of the reforms, international students were to be treated separately from the regular student body, a practice that this district does not support. The district's students are all treated equally, are regulated by the *School Act* and all expected to abide by our Code of Conduct and district policies and procedures. The documents distributed at the roundtable meeting mentioned limiting the percentage of international students in a school's population, setting thresholds for some linguistic groups and setting maximum and minimum tuition fees to be charged. These matters raise a number of concerns regarding the district's ability to continue effective management of our programs.

Most concerning, under the new proposal, was the suggestion of a per student payment to the Ministry. The district then becomes a funding source for the Ministry. This would contradict the

1 | Page

concept and spirit of Board revenue generation. The proposal also contradicts the intent of the report by the BC Progress Board, established by the BC Liberal government in July 2001, *The Role of International Education: Expanding Student Opportunity and Economic Development in British Columbia*, recommendation 4 says that the government must: "Support the international education sector's role in regional economic development" and recommendation 7 emphasizes that it is imperative to: "Minimize policy and procedure impediments to the entrepreneurial activity of both public and private sector international education providers."

The district has a highly successful international education program that has been achieved through over 11 years of building excellent services to international students and their families. The district has a tremendously positive reputation internationally as a result of the many hours of human and material resources dedicated to the development of the program. The international initiatives have created jobs for many teachers and support staff and have helped to enrich our educational programs and provide services that have resulted in Burnaby students achieving outstanding academic results.

The Board respectfully requests that your Ministry reconsider making the proposed reforms and ask that Boards continue to be allowed the freedom to implement their international education programs, without new restrictions.

Sincerely,



Baljinder Narang
Board Chair

cc: Alan Chell, President BCPSEA
Teresa Rezansoff, President BCSTA
BCSTA Boards of Education



2013-07-04

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Ministry of Education
PO BOX 9058 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender:

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Education. The Board of Education of School District 41 (Burnaby) looks forward to working with you and the Ministry staff.

The Board acknowledges your intention to achieve a 10 year labour agreement with teachers. This intention does present many challenges and we wish to emphasize that the 10 year agreement needs to be achieved only through a freely negotiated settlement. The Board also wishes to emphasize the importance of maintaining a co-governance model and is pleased to learn that the BCSTA will be a full participant in the bargaining process directly representing the interests of Boards, and that BCPSEA will provide labour expertise.

We also acknowledge the thoughtful selection of Mr. Peter Cameron to lead the negotiation process. The Board believes collective bargaining is a fundamental cornerstone of our democracy and that a negotiated settlement is possible.

Sincerely,

Baljinder Narang
Board Chair

cc: Alan Chell, President BCPSEA
Teresa Rezansoff, President BCSTA
BCSTA Boards of Education



2013-07-04

Peter Julian, MP
7615 Sixth Street
Burnaby, B.C.
V3N 3M6

Dear Mr. Julian:

Peter

I would like to draw to your attention the serious implications of the current job action related to the delivery of services through the Canadian Immigration Centres. As you know, our School District and School Districts across the metro region are actively engaged in recruiting and placing International students within our schools each year. The welcoming of students from around the world enhances British Columbia's position as an International Centre, develops the 'international-mindedness' and global perspectives within our own students, and provides a significant source of revenue not only to School Districts, but also to the general economy of British Columbia.

Recent decisions related to the operational model of CIC in combination with current job action are having a significant impact on school districts ability to support the entry and placement of these wonderful students, planning to start their studies in Burnaby, British Columbia, or Canada in September 2013.

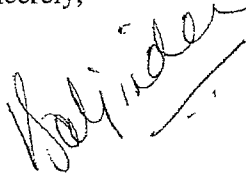
The closure of offices in Seoul, Korea and Berlin have resulted in considerable difficulties for the entry of students from Asia, including Mainland China, and throughout Europe. The current job action has disrupted the services that are necessary to enable current students to extend their study permits, allowing them to stay for another year, and is also preventing students from receiving their study permits to come to Canada to begin their studies.

This situation is creating a great deal of uncertainty and anxiety within our International student community and will result in students seeking their educational experience in countries other than Canada. This has the potential to undermine our well-established and highly-regarded program in Burnaby and negatively impact our financial position that supports teaching positions for our staff.

I wanted to apprise you of this situation and its impact on our School District, as representative of the impact that is being felt in all School Districts in British Columbia.

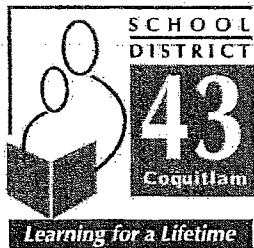
Your support in helping address the issues would be most sincerely appreciated. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions, or clarification you may need in this regard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Baljinder", with a horizontal line underneath.

Baljinder Narang
Board Chair

cc: Alan Chell, President BCPSEA
Teresa Rezansoff, President BCSTA
BCSTA Boards of Education
Kathy Corrigan, MLA Burnaby-Deer Lake
Richard T. Lee, MLA Burnaby North
Raj Chouhan, MLA Burnaby-Edmonds
Jane Jae Kyung Shin, MLA Burnaby-Lougheed



550 Poirier Street, Coquitlam, BC, Canada V3J 6A7 • Phone: 604-939-9201 • Fax: 604-939-7828

CHAIR:

Melissa Hyndes

VICE-CHAIR:

Holly Butterfield

TRUSTEES:

Gail Alty

John J. Keryluk

Brian Robinson

Judy Shirra

Diane Sowden

Gerri Wallis

Keith Watkins

June 25, 2013

Minister Peter Fassbender
Ministry of Education
PO BOX 9058 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender:

RE: 2013 K-12 International Education Regional Roundtables

We are writing with regard to the Province of British Columbia Ministry of Education's proposed reforms to international education programs as outlined at the recent K-12 International Education Regional Roundtables.

Since 1999, Coquitlam School District has had one of the most robust international education programs in the Province in terms of student numbers, revenues and program offerings.

Our Board of Education has embraced the Liberal government's initiatives to encourage Boards of Education to generate revenue and become more entrepreneurial. It has been our understanding that the government has supported and applauded our successes. British Columbia's International Education Strategy document, published last year as part of the BC Jobs Plan was a further acknowledgement and encouragement of our efforts internationally.

We were pleased to be invited to participate in the K-12 International Education Regional Roundtables held by the Ministry in the spring of 2013. We participated in the meeting held on April 16th. At that meeting, we were surprised to learn of a number of proposed "reforms" to K-12 international education programs in our Province. In particular, we are concerned about international students being treated separately from the regular student body in terms of student supports and complaint mechanisms. International students, once enrolled in our school district, are regulated by the School Act and school district policies, procedures, and practices. They receive the same care, attention, and concern as do all of our students.

The documents distributed at the meeting included the K-12 International Education Strategic Framework & Plan, the draft K-12 International Education Operations for a Quality Assurance Model, the Draft Semester in BC Requirement, and the Draft K-12 International Education Financial Models. The Board of Education of School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) has serious concerns about several of the recommendations revealed in these documents.

The documents mention limiting the percentage of international students in a school's population, setting thresholds for some linguistic groups, and setting maximum and minimum tuition fees to be charged. We believe that these measures are unnecessary, appear to be xenophobic, and may be discriminatory.

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Letter to Minister of Education
International Education Regional Roundtables
June 25, 2013
Page 2

We wonder about the proposed requirement for annual Financial and Marketing reports to the Ministry. The Ministry of Education already tracks international students through BCeSIS. The requirement to report tuition revenue, program costs, expenditures including marketing and promotion, sample marketing materials and contracts, numbers of exchange and twinning programs, and revenue returned to the district seems excessively draconian and intrusive.

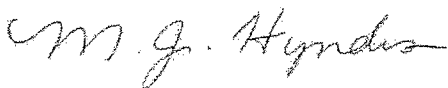
Most important, the contemplation of a per student payment to the Ministry of Education contradicts the concept and spirit of Board revenue generation. We have invested tremendous human and material resources to build our international education program over the last 14 years. The program has in turn helped to build the economies of our local communities of Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Anmore, and Belcarra as well as the Province of BC. It has developed a global awareness of the importance of BC in the world. The program revenues have permitted us to achieve outstanding results provincially in terms of achievement and graduation rates for all learners. Our international initiatives have created jobs for many teachers and support staff and provided income to our homestay families at the same time as they have enriched our cities and villages.

We, as a school district, had not expected to be required to be the funding source for the Ministry, but had rather hoped that the Province would provide resources to support and encourage our efforts. In the report by the BC Progress Board, established by the BC Liberal government in July 2001, The Role of International Education: Expanding Student Opportunity and Economic Development in British Columbia, recommendation 4 says that the government must: "Support the international education sector's role in regional economic development." and recommendation 7 emphasizes that it is imperative to: "Minimize policy and procedure impediments to the entrepreneurial activity of both public and private sector international education providers."

We respectfully request that your Ministry reconsider well-intentioned but misguided strategies to support international education in our Province. We recommend that Boards continue to be allowed the freedom to implement their international education programs. The Province might consider serving a positive role by mobilizing current resources within sectors such as trade and tourism to consolidate the provincial brand abroad.

We would be pleased to participate in further discussions with you on this important matter.

Yours truly,
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)



Melissa Hyndes
Chair
Board of Education

c: Board of Education
Thomas J. Grant, Superintendent
Guy Bonnefoy, Acting Secretary-Treasurer
BCSTA



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Via email: bcsta@bcsta.org

July 30, 2013

BCSTA Board of Directors
BC School Trustees Association
4th Floor-1580 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V6J 5K9

Dear Teresa, and BCSTA Board of Directors,

On behalf of the Board of Education of School District 46 (Sunshine Coast), I am writing to express our profound concern for the direction BCSTA is heading this summer.

BCSTA is an advocacy organization, our advocacy organization.

To us, this means we've elected you and a Board of Directors, and we pay our annual membership fee, so that you will represent the interests of boards to the provincial government—not represent the interests of the provincial government to us, and assist it in implementing them.

Boards and the provincial government co-govern K–12 education, as mandated in the *School Act*. Boards and the provincial government co-govern K–12 collective bargaining, via BCPSEA, as mandated in the *Public Education Labour Relations Act* and the *Public Sector Employers Act*. But BCSTA has no mandate, certainly not in legislation or even in policy set by its membership, to directly “co-govern” on our behalf; rather, we rely on BCSTA to *advocate* for the role and autonomy of boards in the two statutory co-governance relationships mentioned above.

If the BCSTA board has been discussing a change in the organization's role, we request that such a proposal be fully debated at an Annual General Meeting, and that upon any change, boards of education be given the fair opportunity to immediately withdraw from the organization, rather than pay for something we didn't sign up for.

It appears that BCSTA has been drawn in by government to help assist it in implementing a political platform, the “10-year deal” framework, that has not been discussed and supported by member boards. We respect that the governing party's election platform has been endorsed by the voters of BC, but this electoral success does not automatically mean our advocacy organization has lost its mandate to openly and publicly lobby against policy initiatives and

implementation that undermine the co-governance and autonomy of boards. Considering that this mandate is BCSTA's primary role, it simply cannot be bartered away for confidential collaboration in the back rooms of the provincial government, which is *not* BCSTA's mandate. While recent BCSTA communications have also vowed to maintain BCSTA's advocacy, we are already seeing it disappear. Where does BCSTA stand in regards to government intervening in both teacher and now support staff bargaining between our employees and our statutory, co-governed bargaining agent? Evidently, BCSTA supports this government intervention by actively participating in it. When were boards consulted on this position? It certainly didn't come about from feedback to the Collective Bargaining Task Force, which, for the most part, called for *less* government interference and micro-management of teacher bargaining. After fully consulting boards, the Task Force's report also emphasized "the importance of BCPSEA's expertise in labour relations and the value of having BCPSEA manage the cost items..." and noted "Comments also included recognition for the timeliness and thoughtfulness of the communications from BCPSEA." In other words, if BCSTA has any mandate from its members in this situation, it is to advocate for the retention of BCPSEA as our accredited bargaining agent in both teacher and support staff bargaining.

Our board feels that the only rational position for BCSTA to take toward recent events is to strongly support the true, statutory co-governance that boards have in bargaining through BCPSEA. Trying to dress up promised consultation or advice as a kind of "co-governance" is both a tremendous loss of autonomy for boards as well as a slippery slope; many boards pursue excellent and thorough consultation processes in our own districts, and even enshrine them in our local policies, yet we've never heard a board claim to "co-govern" with DPAC, or to "co-govern" with their teachers' local. We would highly appreciate it if BCSTA stopped celebrating the promise of a mere advisory role while downplaying the precarious state of our true co-governance of bargaining, as well as our bargaining rights and autonomy as employers.

Therefore, we urge BCSTA to defer the conversation on how trustees should be represented in bargaining on a long-term basis, for the review of BCPSEA that is part of the Minister's mandate letter. We are not under the impression that this review of BCSPEA is being rushed over the summer. If it takes place during the school year, when boards are meeting, trustees could fully consider all the implications around potentially losing our role in co-governing the bargaining agent. There are too many important discussions to be had by all trustees on all boards, such as what long-term utility will boards have to the public if we basically hand over a significant portion of our employer responsibilities to the provincial government.

BCSTA has a mandate to advocate for the important role of *boards*, rather than narrowly and singularly trying to expand the role of BCSTA.

In the shorter term, especially considering eight months will likely pass before any new legislation is introduced in the legislature, as the employers we need to operate under current laws, which recognize BCPSEA as our bargaining agent. In this context, we suggest BCSTA take the following steps:

- Suggest to BCPSEA that it should be having a discussion with government about allowing government, through BCPSEA's co-governed structure, to take the bargaining

lead on certain matters similar to the successful collaboration that led to a negotiated settlement in the 2006 round of bargaining.

- Advocate for a mandate that includes fair and reasonable compensation increases for our employees paid for by increased provincial funding to the Ministry of Education, flexibility for districts in the area of class size and composition, flexibility around term rather than a hard “10 years,” the need for boards (via BCPSEA) to take the bargaining lead on evaluation/“teacher quality” issues (since they have such a strong impact on the district/classroom level), and no loss of management rights in non-cost issues such as professional autonomy, call-out, etc.
- Stay far away from the bargaining tables, except for setting up a better system for receiving direct updates from BCPSEA to BCSTA. Having “advocacy” represented on the employer’s side of the table will either undermine our advocacy function (as the employer’s bargaining mandate may not align with BCSTA advocacy goals, despite our input), or create serious and disruptive internal divisions within the bargaining team as a whole (as BCTF/CUPE bargaining positions could potentially align with BCSTA advocacy objectives, creating conflict). Especially if government is taking the lead in bargaining, it will be integral for boards to have a separate, distanced advocacy voice that is not simultaneously representing bargaining team positions BCSTA could conceivably be opposing. Considering the strong interest BCSTA is taking in bargaining, it has also been suggested among our board that BCSTA could attend some bargaining sessions as an observer.
- Insist that no more items be moved to local tables until the *next* round of bargaining, and until boards have had a chance to fully discuss this proposal from government to expand local bargaining (which government has been very clear is part of their plan, contrary to your June 25 update) in greater detail. BCPSEA should lead this particular conversation, as it will require a great deal of expertise and experience in these matters.

In conclusion, one of the most compelling reasons for BCSTA to prevent the “baby being thrown out with the bathwater” at this stage is that replacing the legislative framework around the employers’ bargaining agent is an *extremely* complicated measure that cannot be reduced to the alarmingly simple and vague messaging we’ve heard from government and BCSTA thus far. (For example, the matter of having a trustee sitting at the bargaining table is incredibly minor in comparison to the key role of co-governing the accredited bargaining agent, and yet it seems it is being dangled at trustees as a red herring.)

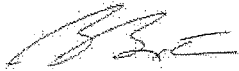
Boards generally are not meeting during this time, and many trustees and administrators are on holiday. It also appears that BCPSEA has been put in a very awkward position and has perhaps been asked by BCSTA, government or its own board to cease its informative communications and thorough consultations (a provincial Rep Council or at least regional conference calls would be very helpful right now) on important labour relations issues such as this one.

If the relative silence from BCPSEA this summer is a taste of things to come, boards are doomed under this new approach. One of BCPSEA’s most remarkable accomplishments over the years,

which is so strong that BCSTA and government may be mistakenly taking it for granted, has been its role in achieving unity and organizational discipline among boards in provincial and local bargaining. "Technical expertise" is undoubtedly a factor in this, but relegating BCPSEA to only provide "technical expertise" will not result in the same kind of board unity in bargaining that only an accredited bargaining agent (*with* technical expertise) can maintain. This integral factor of board solidarity does not exist in other provinces, including some recent, notable examples, that do not have a co-governed, legislated bargaining agent.

We strongly urge BCSTA to refrain from following a government plan to dismantle board autonomy, and instead take the Minister on his word to truly "collaborate" by putting forward an alternate plan that will allow government to take the bargaining lead on major cost items, as it did in 2006, but will also preserve real co-governance, the bargaining rights of the employers, and board solidarity.

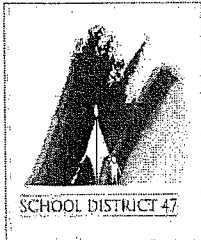
Sincerely,



Betty Baxter
Vice-Chair

BB/er

p.c. Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)
Patrick Bocking, Superintendent of Schools
Nicholas Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer
All boards via British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA)



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 47 (POWELL RIVER)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

4351 Ontario Avenue, Powell River, BC V8A 1V3

Telephone: 604 414 2600 Fax: 604 485 6435

Jeanette Scott - Chair, Doug Skinner - Vice-Chair

Steve Formosa, Mary James, Aaron Reid - Trustees

August 29, 2013

BCSTA Board of Directors
BC School Trustees Association
4th Floor - 1580 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V6J 5K9

To the BCSTA Board of Directors:

Re: BCSTA Request for Input on Bargaining

The Board of Education, School District 47 (Powell River) held a special meeting on August 7, 2013 to discuss bargaining.

School District 47's Board of Education does not believe that BCSTA has the mandate from the Boards of the province to move in the direction that is being taken at this time. While the Teacher Collective Bargaining Task Force report provided insights to inform future discussions, we do not believe that report gives BCSTA the authority to take a seat at the bargaining table. The changes that are being suggested have very large implications to the Boards of the province and any direction taken at this time should be from a direct motion through full debate.

Yours truly

Dr. Jeanette Scott, Chair
Powell River Board of Education

c: BCSTA Boards of Education



**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53
(OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN)**

Box 1770, 6161 Okanagan Street
Oliver BC V0H 1T0
Phone: 250-498-3481
Fax: 250-498-4070
Website: www.sd53.bc.ca

July 8, 2013

Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Honourable Fassbender:

The Board of Education of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen) and the Executive of the South Okanagan Similkameen Teachers' Union (SOSTU) are concerned about the recent change in direction at the provincial bargaining table.

We are disappointed at this change in direction and see it as an erosion of the role of Boards of Education. Earlier this year, all parties to the agreement sent a strong message through their support of the Framework Agreement in Committee (AIC) between the BC Public Schools Employers Association and the BC Teachers' Federation.

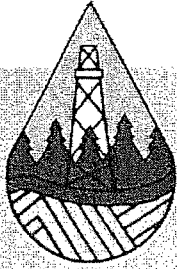
We request that a process respectful of the Agreement in Committee be allowed to continue.

Yours truly,

Marieze Tarr, Chair
Board of Education

(For)
Sylvia Slater, President
South Okanagan Similkameen Teachers' Union

c: BCSTA Boards of Education



School District No. 60

PEACE RIVER NORTH

10112 - 105 Avenue, Fort St. John, British Columbia V1J 4S4 Phone: (250) 262-6000 Fax: (250) 262-6048

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

September 4, 2013

BCSTA Board of Directors
BC School Trustees Association
4th Floor -1580 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V6J 5K9

Dear BCSTA Board of Directors:

At its August 26th, 2013 meeting, the Board of Education, School District #60 discussed, at length, the current situation regarding changes to the bargaining structure, and boards' relationship with government. The board would like to make the following points.

School District #60 Board of Education, board members and staff, have reviewed communication from several boards to members of the BCSTA Board of Directors. The SD #60 Board understands present and emergent pressures that the BCSTA Board finds itself under, keeping an eye of the goal: serving students in the province through local board governance. However, the board shares concerns well expressed by many boards, being disappointed in the direction and processes that the Board of Directors have undertaken over the summer.

It is recognized that Boards of Education exist at the will of the Provincial Government, within legislation. It is also recognized that while co-governance is discussed often and there is a history of protocol agreements in place (between BCSTA on behalf of member boards and the Ministry of Education) it is apparent that "buy in" from the government side is at best intermittent and not recognized in legislation.

The BCSTA exists at the will of member boards. It is a volunteer membership and 100% board membership is not guaranteed. Much work has been done to ensure the present state of full membership and the strength that such participation demonstrates. The Board of School District #60 believes that working within the organization is much more preferable than leaving the fold. A full membership is a strong voice for boards and trustees. This strength must be demonstrated.

Strong policy initiatives, discussed and voted on at Annual General Meetings, guide the organization. It was a resolution at an AGM in favour of "Provincial Bargaining" followed by the report of the Korbin Commission which resulted in the formation of the British Columbia Public Schools Employers Association, recognizing the value and expertise of trustees as majority members of the board.

At the time, the BCSTA staff members who had been working with Human Resources management migrated to the new organization. BCSTA was relieved of this responsibility, a situation that has endured until, apparently, lately.

...2

Board of Education

Jaret Thompson – Chair Ida Campbell – Vice-Chair
Linda Nielsen Darrell Pasichnyk Linda Sewell Sue Stark Heather Hannaford

The BCSTA's mandate from its members, supporting boards and trustees in their work and advocating for strong boards and engaged trustees, is an honourable one well supported by members. The activities this summer seem to have moved the organization away from that mandate. The Board of SD#60 understands the tight time lines, and the importance of maintaining a good relationship with the Provincial Government. However it cannot condone the apparent abandonment of the advocacy role.

Is it the government's intention to directly take over the management of education?

Now is the time for boards to come together, to support each other in the democratic process and to support the most excellent work of our many employees, particularly right now our management teams.

Now is the time to discuss frankly, publicly and with government the financial pressures which guide our decisions. It is indicative of boards' responsible management that very many of the suggestions for savings to fund "framework agreement" with support staff have been explored and implemented already.

Now is the time to showcase innovations from around the province. Rightly the Ministry has expectations for innovation. Boards have proved themselves up to the task, despite ever decreasing budget allocations. Students are benefitting from this mindset. It is no accident that British Columbia maintains a recognized, outstanding record of public education within North America and the world. Largely this is a result of careful work, on behalf of communities, by democratically elected school trustees, working together with government and employees.

Now is not the time, by default, to relinquish legislated responsibilities. Cooperation is one thing. Co-option is quite another.

School District # 60 Board anticipates that our comments will contribute to a stronger advocacy role for BCSTA. Thank you for your attention.

Yours truly,

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
School District No. 60
(Peace River North)



Ida Campbell
Board Vice-Chair

IC/hh

Attachment: Question Sheet

cc. SD #60 Trustees
Dave Sloan, Superintendent of Schools
All BC Boards of Education – via BCSTA
Pat Pimm, MLA

File: 4.8
25.5

Question 1. What are some examples of concerns you have that you feel BCSTA must be mindful of in this process as we move forward?

1. BCSTA is an organization limited to advocacy. Not this!

The British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) serves and supports our members, BC's 60 Boards of Education, in their key work of improving student achievement. At the local level, as Boards seek to engage their communities in this work, BCSTA provides professional development, legal counsel and communications. Provincially, our non-profit Association acts as boards' strong, unified voice in advocating to government, other education partners, and the public on matters affecting public education.

Where does it say BCSTA bargains? Where does it say BCSTA acts without consultation of local boards?

2. BCPSEA is Legislated.

No one can circumvent legislation. This needs to be challenged. Imagine this was a privacy bill or something that might get more attention.

Either this is illegal or corrupt.

The legislation needs to be changed/updated/repealed in due process prior to implementing or IMPOSING changes.

3. BCPSEA is established FOR boards of education.

SCHEDULE 2 - EMPLOYER BARGAINING REP: The employers' association (BCPSEA) established FOR boards of education under section 6 of the Public Sector Employers Act is the exclusive bargaining representative for the board of education under the Public Education Labour Relations Act.

BCPSEA is a legislated benefit to the Boards of this province. BCPSEA provide incredible value to the boards that cannot be replaced or duplicated without an immeasurable amount of cost and time. There is no hope of BCSTA providing this service. This would be a step back at a significant cost to the province.

4. PELRA purpose is to.....

PELRA: The purpose of this Act is

- (a) to improve collective bargaining practices and procedures in the public school system,
- (b) to establish a Provincial two-tiered system of collective bargaining for boards of education and trade unions representing teachers,
- (b.1) to establish the employers' association as the accredited bargaining agent for the purpose of bargaining collectively with support staff unions, and
- (c) to promote positive working relationships in the public school system.

I don't believe we want to move away from this.

5. BCPSEA is the best scapegoat on the front line for bargaining.

In changing BCPSEA to a technical advisor role the government and boards will lose an invaluable partner that shields both parties from direct attack.

6. WHIPSAW 2013+

Government and Boards including BCSTA will be prone to whipsaw tactics without the organizational discipline provided by BCPSEA. Individual trustees and boards could make changes locally that affect the whole province. MLA's could be lobbied for change, then bringing to Victoria for knee-jerk policy. BCPSEA is required. BCSTA can't do it, nor should they want to.

7. Alan Chell needs to get the BCPSEA board together for a meeting.

Including BCPSEA Reps would be nice too.

Clearly BCPSEA needs to get together in a proper meeting to tackle any further ideas/actions/discussions. Alan Chell certainly has my respect; however, the nature of this change requires IMMEDIATE BCPSEA Board direction, not Lone Ranger, "I got this" tactics.

8. Government sets mandate, so what problem are they really trying to solve?

Answer us this, What is the end the gov't is trying to achieve? What are they really trying to accomplish? HINT: It's not co-governance! It's not more trustee input.

9. Co-Governance is in serious jeopardy! BCSTA moves with no consult.

BCSTA may have made a valiant effort to saddle up with the government to maintain a voice, but this should be a temporary interim situation.

We need to step back and look at what has happened here. We need strategy or a plan to move forward on any change this major. BCSTA is not consulting in any meaningful way.

Asking ridiculous questions in surveys, leading the answers is not appropriate. Asking the above question with the "....as we move forward" bit is insulting. Who said we should move forward anyways?

Question 2. In terms of provincial teacher collective bargaining, what are some examples of things you would like to see in place to ensure your Board of Education has meaningful, relevant, and timely input?

1. BCPSEA!

For Boards.

Great progress.

Legislated.

Professional.

Enough said.

Question 3. Is there anything else you'd like to add at this time?

1. I would further state that i do NOT want BCSTA to get into this.

BCPSEA is legislated and full of qualified people doing great work in a nearly impossible environment. Structurally they have 4 government seats on the board and the set up works.

2. This is a childish political move by the government.

We all know James and Claire are unhappy with BCPSEA staff and that is the primary force driving this. BCSTA condoning this action is unacceptable. We need to unite and act against this gov't intervention. They cannot circumvent legislation in this manner.

Saanich Schools

2125 Keating Cross Road, Saanichton, BC, Canada V8M 2A5

(250) 652-7300 Fax: (250) 652-6421

June 25, 2013

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender:

At the regular board meeting held on June 19, 2013 the Board of Education of School District No. 63 (Saanich) passed a motion re-affirming this Board's support of the 2013 provincial bargaining process ratified by the BC Teachers' Federation and BC Public School Employers' Association on January 26, 2013 as specified in the Framework Agreement in Committee (AIC).

As outlined in the AIC, the Saanich School Board urges that the agreed upon due process be honoured and that bargaining continue until the expiry of the collective agreement without undue outside influence. If an agreement is not reached by the expiry of the collective agreement we trust that Mark Brown will suggest processes for continued negotiations.

Our expectation is that the parties give full and careful consideration to Mr. Brown's suggested processes for continued negotiations, in order that the parties can reach a negotiated settlement.

Yours truly,



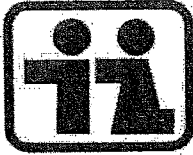
G. Wayne Hunter
Chair, Saanich Board of Education

cc: N. Macdonald, Superintendent of Schools
M. Schulte, Secretary-Treasurer
SD63 Trustees
BCPSEA Chair Alan Chell
BCSTA Boards of Education

Saanich Schools



Visit us at our website: www.sd63.bc.ca



School District 72

Campbell River, B.C.

425 Pinecrest Road, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 3P2 • Tel: 250.830.2300 • Fax: 250.287.2616 • www.sd72.bc.ca

June 26, 2013

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender,

At our last meeting on June 25, 2013, the Board of Education from School District 72 (Campbell River) passed a motion to write a letter expressing support for the 2013 provincial bargaining process ratified on January 26, 2013 between the B.C. Teachers' Federation and the B.C. Public School Employers' Association and reflected in the *Framework Agreement in-Committee: 2013 Round of Bargaining (AiC)*.

We consider this Agreement in-Committee a huge step forward in the relationship between the two parties and a positive step in coming to an amicable, process-driven round of collective bargaining.

Although we understand the inefficiencies of continually negotiating two-year contracts, we also have some significant concerns around issues arising from contracts that are a decade in length, especially if there is a possibility of those contracts being imposed instead of working through an agreed upon collective bargaining process.

In School District 72, we place great value the relationship we have built with our educational partners and are highly concerned about the continued government/labour unrest in this sector.

Sincerely,

Michele Babchuk,
Board Chair, School District 72 Board of Education

c: Premier Christy Clark
Alan Chell, BCPSEA President
Mark Brown, BCPSEA
Susan Lambert, BCTF President
Teresa Rezansoff, BCSTA President
BCSTA for distribution to all Boards of Education
Elaine Thompson, President, CRDTA
Rob Fleming, MLA Victoria-Swan Lake, Critic for Education
Claire Trevena, MLA

Learning to Be Our Best



School District 72

Campbell River, B.C.

425 Pinecrest Road, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 3P2 • Tel: 250.830.2300 • Fax: 250.287.2616 • www.sd72.bc.ca

June 26, 2013

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender,

At our last meeting on June 25, 2013, the Board of Education from School District 72 (Campbell River) passed a motion to write a letter requesting that the Ministry of Education fully fund any wage increases negotiated within our sector.

Earlier today, our CUPE local (Local 723) joined many other CUPE locals around the province in holding a strike vote due to the provincial government's lack of movement on compensation increases and the decision to hold to the Cooperative Gains Mandate.

As a Board of Education, we support a fair wage settlement for all of our employee groups. For CUPE support staff in particular, a wage freeze has been in effect since 2009.

However, as we indicated in our letter dated January 15, 2013, we simply cannot fund wage increases within the current funding allotment without negatively impacting learning and eroding services in the classroom. Again, we find ourselves increasingly frustrated that we are being asked to locally fund any settlements.

As a School District, we value and work hard to maintain a positive working relationship with our support staff and our Board is gravely concerned about the continued government/labour unrest in the education sector.

Sincerely,

Michele Babchuk,
Board Chair, School District 72 Board of Education

c: Christine Szaflik, President, CUPE Local 723
M. Hancock, President, CUPE BC
BCSTA for distribution to all Boards of Education
Rob Fleming, MLA Victoria-Swan Lake, Critic for Education
Claire Trevena, MLA

Learning to Be Our Best



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 73 (KAMLOOPS / THOMPSON)

1383 - 9th Avenue, Kamloops, B.C. V2C 3X7

Tel: (250) 374-0679 Fax: (250) 372-1183 www.sd73.bc.ca

July 22, 2013

Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Office of the Minister
Ottawa, ON K1A 1L1

Dear Minister Alexander:

The Board of Education of School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) would like to express its concerns with regard to Canadian Immigration Centers (CIC) and the impact that recent changes in their operations have on our international students.

Closure of CIC offices in Seoul, Tokyo and Berlin have negatively affected the ability of students to apply for study permits. Students have experienced delays in receiving their permits which has led to students missing orientation and the beginning of classes, lack of proper documentation for entry into Canada, and missed flights. Recent job action by CIC staff has particularly affected students from Mainland China and throughout Europe.

Increased delays in processing student visas have seriously impeded the ability of international students to access education in Canada in a timely manner. Adding difficulty to the application process by asking students to apply for visas online in English ignores the reality of language barriers and adds another level of frustration and delay to the process. This is creating a negative perception of Canada being a destination for education.

We would ask that you reconsider the closure of the CIC offices in Seoul, Tokyo and Berlin. We would also ask that you reach a settlement with the CIC staff as soon as possible in order to minimize any delays in processing student visas for the start of school in September.

Yours truly,

Kathleen Karpuk, Vice-Chair
Board of Education

KK:eb

cc: C. McLeod, MP, Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo
BCSTA – Distribution to all BC Boards of Education



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 73 (KAMLOOPS / THOMPSON)

1383 - 9th Avenue, Kamloops, B.C. V2C 3X7

Tel: (250) 374-0679 Fax: (250) 372-1183 www.sd73.bc.ca

July 23, 2013

Council of Ministers of Education, Canada
95 St. Clair Avenue West, Suite 1106
Toronto, ON M4V 1N6

Dear Ministers of Education:

At the recent Canadian School Boards Association Annual General Meeting, provincial associations reported on the successes and challenges that they were each experiencing over the past year. Unfortunately, it became apparent that all provinces were experiencing a trend of erosion of local board control over education issues, decreased funding for educational programs and increased provincial government intervention. The Board of Education of School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) would like to express its concerns about this trend.

Locally elected and responsible school boards are an integral part of our communities. We are one of the few levels of elected government where it is possible for concerned citizens to speak to us directly about issues. Local boards are able to implement unique programs that address the individual needs of communities in direct and effective ways. Erosion of board authority, removal of Boards of Education and amalgamation of local boards into larger boards has a negative effect on education and community engagement.

We are experiencing increased development of provincial initiatives where boards are asked to implement programs without accompanied funding. In other cases, new initiatives are developed and funding is redirected from existing programs which are still mandated to continue. If provincial governments are serious about new programs succeeding in education, new programs must be fully funded. Provincial governments cannot expect boards of education to continue to sacrifice existing, successful programs for unfunded provincial initiatives.

Increasingly, provincial governments have been pushing aside Boards of Education to achieve political goals. Ignoring the expertise that boards have in administering education will only lead to decreased efficiency and increased bureaucracy. Boards of Education must be at the table when contract negotiations occur to ensure that the flexibility to shift resources to disadvantaged schools and students is available as situations change. Local boards are much better at being able to respond to the individual needs of schools and communities and must retain the ability to administer programs and staff as needed. Policy decisions that are made without input from boards will not achieve the desired goals.

...2/

Council of Ministers of Education, Canada
July 23, 2013
Page 2

We urge you to commit to elected local school boards that are able to administer to the individual needs of communities and schools. We also request that you commit to fully fund any new programs and initiatives that are developed by provincial government and administered by school districts. Further, we remind you that elected Boards of Education are integral to the administration of education and must be involved with contract negotiations and the development of policy in order to ensure that contracts have the flexibility to shift resources as needed and that policy is firmly rooted in the day-to-day reality of schools.

We trust that you are fully committed to the ideals of a strong public education system and that you will work with school trustees and Boards of Education to realize those ideals. We commend those governments who have already made these commitments.

Yours truly,



Kathleen Karpuk, Vice-Chair
Board of Education

KK:eb

cc: Canadian School Boards Association
Minister of Education Fassbender, Province of BC
BCSTA – for distribution to all BC Boards of Education

June 26, 2013

Honourable Minister, Peter Fassbender
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Honourable Minister Fassbender:

This letter is to congratulate you on both your election as the MLA for Surrey Fleetwood and being appointed as the Province's Minister of Education. These two roles have tremendous importance to the citizens of the Province and the role that education plays in the future for our society.

We, as a Board of Education, share in the responsibility by working together with you in a co-governance model to deliver the best opportunities for our students within the Kindergarten to Grade 12 system and beyond.

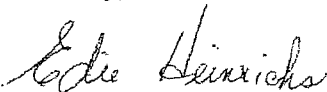
The Board wants you to know that we value our relationships with the School District's staff unions and want to offer our encouragement to your office to establish a fair and balanced approach in reaching negotiated new collective agreements with our employees.

We appreciate your role in setting the provincial mandate for the bargaining process and wish to offer our support for a respectful and open process to arrive at new collective agreements that create a good working relationship among the employees within our School District.

It is expected the various parties can reach agreement through an open and productive dialogue.

In closing, Trustees look forward to working with you in providing the best learning opportunities for the students of the Mission Public School District.

Sincerely,



Edie Heinrichs,
Chairperson, SD75

cc: Board of Education
Bill Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools
Premier Christy Clark
Teresa Rezansoff, President, BC School Trustees' Association
Alan Chell, Chair, Board of Directors, BC Public School Employers' Association
BC School Trustees' Association for Dissemination to all Boards of Education

EH/to



ITEM 2

To: Board of Education

From: Chairperson
Mike Murray

Re: **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Date: September 11, 2013
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Minutes of the June 26, 2013 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

Attachment

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Board Chairperson – Mike Murray
Vice-Chairperson – Eleanor Palis
Trustee – Susan Carr
Trustee – Ken Clarkson
Trustee – Kathy Marshall
Trustee – Sarah Nelson
Trustee – Dave Rempel

STAFF:

Superintendent – Jan Unwin
Secretary Treasurer – Flavia Coughlan
Deputy Superintendent – Laurie Meston
Executive Assistant – Lena Frend / Karen Yoxall

Absent:

Irena Pochop – Mgr. of Communications/Community Relations

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.
The Chair welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

Correspondence

- Frank Lento, Chairperson – SD 5 (Southeast Kootenay)
- Darrel Ganzert – SD No. 20 (Kootenay – Columbia)
- Ginny Manning/Leslea Pryde – SD No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)
- Leighton Wishart – SD No. 85 (Vancouver Island North)

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information.

CARRIED

Ordering of Agenda

The Chair opened the floor to others wanting to speak to the Agenda. Trustee Clarkson requested to add the rental fee increase to Chair Report.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Nelson

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. June 12, 2013 Public Board Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Minutes of the June 12, 2013 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

C. PRESENTATIONS**D. DELEGATIONS****E. CHAIR REPORT**Rental Fee Increase

The Chair opened the discussion on the implementation of the new rental fee structure and the correct process for handling concerns. The Chair referred the matter to Trustee Carr who had received an enquiry from a user group. Concerns should come to the Board first in writing who will then refer them to staff. Trustee Clarkson enquired when user groups receive notification of rental fee increases. The Secretary Treasurer reported that all groups had received notification of the increase and that so far there had only been positive feedback. One daycare may not renew but this is not due to the fee increase. The question of how much space each particular group needs is being considered and that the new fee structure reflects moving to a cost recovery basis.

F. DEFERRED ITEMS**G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS****H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT****1. Decision Items****a) Superintendent of Schools**Achievement Contract 2013

The Superintendent requested the approval of Achievement Contract 2013 so that it could be submitted to the Ministry of Education by July 15, 2013. The Achievement Contract 2013 will be looked at in more depth in the fall. Additional data has now been included in the Achievement Contract 2013 on the summer learning program.

Moved: Trustee Carr

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the Board ratify the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2013 Achievement Contract which is to be submitted to the Ministry of Education by July 15, 2013.

CARRIED**b) Deputy Superintendent****c) Secretary Treasurer****2. Information Items****a) Superintendent of Schools****b) Deputy Superintendent****c) Secretary Treasurer**

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Committees of the Whole

2. Committee & Advisory Committee Reports

- a) Aboriginal Education
- b) Board Policy Development
 - i. Proposed Draft Policy 2500

The Secretary Treasurer reported on the review of proposed draft Policy 2500 which defines how policy is initiated and reviewed. The proposed draft policy is essentially the same but is more streamlined than the original and would require only one procedure and not two procedures attached to policy.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive for information and continuation with the consultation process: policy 2500 Board Policy Development and procedure 2500.1 Board Policy Development Committee.

CARRIED

- c) District Student Advisory
- d) Education
- e) French Immersion Advisory
- f) Inclusive Education

J. QUESTION PERIOD

- 1. Trustee Questions
- 2. Staff Questions
- 3. Employee Group Questions

CUPE representative wished everybody a happy and safe summer.

- 4. DPAC Questions
- 5. Public Questions

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council.

Trustee Rempel reported that The Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council is hoping to have one free performance for Grade 5 students in January 2014. The AGM Committee Report will be available in July and the next meeting is scheduled for July 16th.

Ridge Meadows Education Foundation.

Trustee Rempel reported that The Ridge Meadows Education Foundation donated \$500 to the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Community Association. This money will be given to the Salvation Army to assist in the preparation of lunches for students.

Good News Items

The Chair invited Trustees to share their good news items. Trustee Rempel attended the opening of two new parks in the Silver Valley area – Deer Fern Park and Cedar Park. Trustees commented on the various graduation ceremonies, and visiting the Montessori program at Hammond Elementary. Positive comments from Elementary Principals were shared by the Deputy Superintendent.

L. OTHER BUSINESS

Public Disclosure of Closed Meeting Business

M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

CARRIED

Mike Murray, Chairperson

Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer

To: Board of Education

From: Deputy Superintendent
Laurie Meston

Re: **2013-2014 KANAKA CREEK
SCHOOL CALENDAR REVISION**

Date: September 11, 2013
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Historically, the District has always had a Professional Development Day scheduled in either December or April when Kanaka Creek Elementary is on vacation. Therefore, that day has traditionally been scheduled in the Kanaka Creek calendar as two half days one on the first afternoon of the Winter term in January and one on the first afternoon of the Spring term at the end of April or early May.

For the 2013/14 school year none of the Professional Development Days have been scheduled during the time that Kanaka Creek is on vacation and therefore, it was intended that Kanaka Creek have the same Professional Development days as the rest of the District. However, an oversight has resulted in the Kanaka Creek school calendar including two half days for Professional Development scheduled on Monday January 6th, 2014 and Monday April 28th, 2014 rather than a full day on Friday January 24th, 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board of Education approves a change to the Kanaka Creek previously approved calendar – removing the afternoon of Monday January 6th, 2014 and the afternoon of Monday April 28th, 2014 and replacing them with a full day for professional development on the same day as the rest of the District – Friday January 24th, 2014.

Attachment



2013 - 2014

KANAKA CREEK SCHOOL CALENDAR (revised)

Schools Opening Day for Students	Tuesday, September 3, 2013
<i>Non Instructional Day (District wide)</i>	<i>Monday, September 23, 2013</i>
<i>Non Instructional Day (School Based Growth Planning Day)</i>	<i>Tuesday, September 24, 2013</i>
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 14, 2013
<i>Non Instructional Day (Province wide)</i>	<i>Friday, October 25, 2013</i>
Schools not in session	Friday, November 8, 2013
Remembrance Day	Monday, November 11, 2013
School Closes for Winter Break	Friday, December 6, 2013
Winter Break	December 9 to January 3, 2014
School reopens after Winter Break (am)	Monday, January 6, 2014
<i>Non Instructional Day (School Based)</i>	<i>Monday, January 24, 2014</i>
Family Day	Monday, February 10, 2014
<i>Non Instructional Day (District wide)</i>	<i>Friday, February 28, 2014</i>
School closes for Spring Break	Friday, March 28, 2014
Good Friday	Friday, April 18, 2014
Easter Monday	Monday, April 21, 2014
Spring Break	March 31 to April 25, 2014
School reopens after Spring Break	Monday, April 28, 2014
Victoria Day	Monday, May 19, 2014
<i>Non Instructional Day (School Based)</i>	<i>Tuesday, May 20, 2014</i>
School not in session	Monday, June 30, 2014
Canada Day	Tuesday, July 1, 2014
Last Day for Students	Wednesday, July 23, 2014
Year-end Administrative Day	Thursday, July 24, 2014

Elementary (K-7) daily schedule: 8:30 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. 295 instructional minutes per day
(Kindergarten gradual entry during the first two weeks of September)

Minimum number of hours of instruction that must be offered as per School Act and Calendar Regulation:

853 hours of instruction for students in Kindergarten
878 hours of instruction for students in Grades 1 to 7



To: Board of Education

From: Secretary Treasurer
Flavia Coughlan

Re: **CAPITAL AMENDMENT BYLAW
NO. 126633 – 02
2013/14 ANNUAL FACILITY GRANT –
CAPITAL PORTION**

Date: September 11, 2013
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Board adopted Capital Bylaw No. 126633 – 2013/14 Annual Facility Grant - Capital Portion on April 24, 2013 specifying a maximum allocation of \$1,541,777.

On July 16, 2013, the Ministry of Education announced a change to the operating/capital split for the 2013/14 Annual Facility Grant (“AFG”) Funding. (Attachment A).

For 2013/14 School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) will continue receive \$2,433,708 as AFG funding.

The operating portion of the 2013/14 AFG funding is now reduced to \$561,550 and will be distributed to school districts as targeted funding and reported as a Special Purpose Fund. A portion of the operating AFG for 2013/14 will be retained by the Ministry to continue funding the implementation of Capital Asset Management Services. For SD42 the contribution is \$66,076.

The capital portion of AFG has been increased by \$330,381. In order to access the revised amount of \$1,872,158 allocated to the Capital Portion of the 2013/14 Annual Facilities Grant the Board is required to adopt a Capital Amendment Bylaw. Capital Amendment Bylaw No. 126633-02 is included in Attachment B.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board pass Capital Project Amendment Bylaw No. 126633-02 – 2013/14 Annual Facility Grant - Capital Portion at this meeting with three (3) readings, unanimously.

THAT the Board pass Capital Project Amendment Bylaw No. 126633-02 – 2013/14 Annual Facility Grant - Capital Portion as read a first time.

THAT the Board pass Capital Project Amendment Bylaw No. 126633-02 – 2013/14 Annual Facility Grant - Capital Portion as read a second time.

THAT the Board pass Capital Project Amendment Bylaw No. 126633-02 – 2013/14 Annual Facility Grant - Capital Portion as read a third time and finally adopted.

ATTACHMENTS



VIA EMAIL
Ref: 168491

July 16, 2013

To: All Secretary-Treasurers
All School Districts

Re: 2013/14 Annual Facility Grant Funding – Updated Information

Further to Doug Stewart's letter dated March 28, 2013, regarding Annual Facility Grant (AFG) funding, Ministry budget pressures have necessitated the shift of \$15 million from the Ministry's operating budget to its capital budget.

There is no change to the total amount of AFG. Districts will still receive their full allocation of \$110.496 million, only the operating/capital split has changed.

For the operating allocation, you will recall that \$15.6 million was paid prior to March 31, 2013 with the intention of paying the balance, less the CAMS contribution, in equal installments between July and September, 2013. However, with the reduction to the operating portion, there will now be only one payment, which your district will receive in August, 2013.

The corresponding increase to the capital allocation will be paid through an amendment to the Certificate of Approval (COA). Prior to the issue of the amended COA, your board must adopt a revised capital project bylaw for the full capital portion in the table shown in the link below. Your bylaw will use the following format XXXXXX-02, where XXXXXX is the same number as the original bylaw. Please forward the revised bylaw to the attention of Jennifer Coward, Capital Funding Clerk, Resource Management Division.

Districts are not required to submit revised AFG Spending Plans.

Districts are reminded that all planned AFG projects must be completed by March 31, 2014. Please contact your Planning Officer if you have any questions.

A copy of the revised AFG allocation is attached and can also be found on the Ministry's capital website at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/capitalplanning/resources/welcome.htm>

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Joel Palmer, A/Director
Capital Management Branch

Attachment

pc: All Superintendents of Schools
Ministry Regional Managers

ANNUAL FACILITY GRANT, 2013/14 - REVISED ALLOCATION, JULY 2013

School District	2013/14 Annual Facility Grant					
	Operating Portion				Capital Portion	Total
	Pre-payment March 2013	Balance	CAMS	Balance Net of CAMS		
5 Southeast Kootenay	190,553	120,874	36,645	84,229	1,038,268	1,349,695
6 Rocky Mountain	130,006	82,467	25,001	57,466	708,368	920,841
8 Kootenay Lake	185,633	117,754	35,699	82,055	1,011,463	1,314,850
10 Arrow Lakes	41,466	26,304	7,974	18,330	225,937	293,707
19 Revelstoke	43,401	27,531	8,346	19,185	236,483	307,415
20 Kootenay-Columbia	128,720	81,651	24,754	56,897	701,356	911,727
22 Vernon	236,706	150,151	45,520	104,631	1,289,747	1,676,604
23 Central Okanagan	521,437	330,765	100,276	230,489	2,841,166	3,693,368
27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	206,986	131,299	39,805	91,494	1,127,810	1,466,095
28 Quesnel	118,912	75,430	22,868	52,562	647,917	842,259
33 Chilliwack	303,116	192,276	58,292	133,984	1,651,593	2,146,985
34 Abbotsford	459,439	291,437	88,354	203,083	2,503,353	3,254,229
35 Langley	451,607	286,470	86,848	199,622	2,460,681	3,198,758
36 Surrey	1,568,280	994,811	301,592	693,219	8,545,113	11,108,204
37 Delta	408,295	258,995	78,518	180,477	2,224,685	2,891,975
38 Richmond	550,507	349,204	105,867	243,337	2,999,555	3,899,266
39 Vancouver	1,485,920	942,567	285,754	656,813	8,096,356	10,524,843
40 New Westminster	156,609	99,341	30,117	69,224	853,316	1,109,266
41 Burnaby	618,096	392,079	118,865	273,214	3,367,831	4,378,006
42 Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	343,596	217,954	66,076	151,878	1,872,158	2,433,708
43 Coquitlam	756,658	479,972	145,511	334,461	4,122,815	5,359,445
44 North Vancouver	415,817	263,766	79,965	183,801	2,265,670	2,945,253
45 West Vancouver	177,530	112,613	34,140	78,473	967,310	1,257,453
46 Sunshine Coast	130,525	82,797	25,101	57,696	711,195	924,517
47 Powell River	81,620	51,774	15,696	36,078	444,724	578,118
48 Sea to Sky	126,907	80,502	24,405	56,097	691,482	898,891
49 Central Coast	40,031	25,393	7,698	17,695	218,117	283,541
50 Haida Gwaii	73,294	46,493	14,095	32,398	399,357	519,144
51 Boundary	75,259	47,739	14,473	33,266	410,065	533,063
52 Prince Rupert	90,054	57,125	17,318	39,807	490,681	637,860
53 Okanagan Similkameen	83,557	53,002	16,069	36,933	455,276	591,835
54 Bulkley Valley	94,056	59,662	18,088	41,574	512,483	666,201
57 Prince George	443,002	281,011	85,193	195,818	2,413,793	3,137,806
58 Nicola-Similkameen	83,545	52,996	16,066	36,930	455,215	591,756
59 Peace River South	189,715	120,343	36,484	83,859	1,033,704	1,343,762
60 Peace River North	198,498	125,913	38,173	87,740	1,081,559	1,405,970
61 Greater Victoria	537,988	341,264	103,459	237,805	2,931,347	3,810,599
62 Sooke	223,629	141,856	43,006	98,850	1,218,494	1,583,979
63 Saanich	203,047	128,799	39,047	89,752	1,106,345	1,438,191
64 Gulf Islands	68,805	43,646	13,232	30,414	374,901	487,352
67 Okanagan Skaha	178,250	113,070	34,279	78,791	971,234	1,262,554
68 Nanaimo-Ladysmith	368,921	234,018	70,946	163,072	2,010,146	2,613,085
69 Qualicum	132,357	83,958	25,453	58,505	721,173	937,488
70 Alberni	140,607	89,192	27,040	62,152	766,130	995,929
71 Comox Valley	232,669	147,589	44,744	102,845	1,267,745	1,648,003
72 Campbell River	174,705	110,821	33,597	77,224	951,917	1,237,443
73 Kamloops/Thompson	465,998	295,598	89,615	205,983	2,539,092	3,300,688
74 Gold Trail	92,726	58,819	17,832	40,987	505,236	656,781
75 Mission	165,665	105,087	31,859	73,228	902,663	1,173,415
78 Fraser-Cascade	71,221	45,177	13,696	31,481	388,062	504,460
79 Cowichan Valley	255,005	161,758	49,039	112,719	1,389,449	1,806,212
81 Fort Nelson	42,899	27,212	8,250	18,962	233,744	303,855
82 Coast Mountains	204,674	129,831	39,360	90,471	1,115,208	1,449,713
83 North Okanagan-Shuswap	227,358	144,221	43,723	100,498	1,238,811	1,610,390
84 Vancouver Island West	52,592	33,361	10,114	23,247	286,559	372,512
85 Vancouver Island North	98,516	62,491	18,945	43,546	536,784	697,791
87 Stikine	40,336	25,587	7,757	17,830	219,781	285,704
91 Nechako Lakes	192,167	121,898	36,955	84,943	1,047,066	1,361,131
92 Nisga'a	36,056	22,872	6,934	15,938	196,461	255,389
93 Conseil scolaire francophone	184,456	117,006	35,472	81,534	1,005,046	1,306,508
Provincial Total	15,600,000	9,895,588	3,000,000	6,895,588	85,000,000	110,495,588

CAPITAL AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 126633-02
2013/14 Annual Facility Grant – Capital Portion

A BYLAW by the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) (hereinafter called the "Board") to amend a Capital Project of the Board pursuant to Sections 143 (3) and 144 (1) of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "*Act*").

WHEREAS by Capital Bylaw No. 126633, the Board adopted capital bylaw specifying a total maximum allocation of \$1,541,777.

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Education has approved an additional maximum allocation of \$330,381 for Project No. 126633 to the capital plan.

NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:

1. The Capital Amendment Bylaw of the Board specifying a total maximum allocation of \$1,872,158 is hereby adopted.
2. This Bylaw may be cited as School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) Capital Amendment Bylaw No. 126633-02.



ITEM 5

To: Board of Education

From: FCOTW

Re: **2012 - 2013**
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Date: September 11, 22013
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

To be distributed



ITEM 6

To: Board of Education

From: Ken Clarkson
Trustee

Re: **BCSTA Motion Timelines**

Date: September 11, 22013
(Public Board Meeting)

To provide enough time for motions to be reviewed by the Legislative Committee and for approved motions to be sent out to all Boards for review prior to BCSTA's Fall Provincial Council meeting, Friday and Saturday, 25 – 26 October, 2013, all motions must be received at the BCSTA office by Monday, 23 September, 2013

Attachment



Motion to October Provincial Council

Deadline for submission: Monday, September 23, 2013

MOTION TITLE: [A BRIEF TITLE THAT CAPTURES THE MAIN POINT OF THE MOTION]

SUBMITTED BY: [BOARD OF EDUCATION NAME AND SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER; OR
STANDING COMMITTEE NAME; OR BRANCH NAME]

Please indicate if the proposed resolution relates to an existing Foundational Statement or Policy Statement in our BCSTA Policy Book.

- ☐ **Relates to Foundational Statement #** _____
- ☐ **Relates to Policy Statement #** _____
- ☐ **Propose to make this resolution a new interim policy statement.**
- ☐ **This is an action resolution and does not change or contradict any existing Foundational or Policy Statement.**

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA

NOTES:

1. *Motions must be **emergent** – i.e., business that, if delayed until the Annual General Meeting, will impact negatively on Boards' ability to influence public policy or a public education issue.*
2. *The motion should clearly indicate the action requested **of BCSTA**, rather than an action for some other body or organization.*
3. *Wording should be as succinct as possible. Do not use "whereas" statements. Instead, provide the required background information in the rationale statement below.*

RATIONALE:

Provide a succinct description of why this motion is needed, plus any relevant background information. Include why the motion is considered emergent, i.e., "This motion is emergent because..."

Types of BCSTA Resolutions

Statement Categories	Description	Example	Who can Enact/Amend?	Process to Enact/Amend
Foundational Statements	Fundamental beliefs of the Association. Intended to guide future policy and action resolutions. Meant to be long-term/long standing.	<i>BCSTA believes that, recognizing individual differences, all children should be challenged and encouraged to attain their maximum possible development.</i>	BCSTA members in General Meetings	Extraordinary resolution: 2/3 ballot vote
Policy Resolutions	Resolutions that support and expand Foundational Statements. Reflect context and guide the advocacy of the Association.	<i>BCSTA adopts as policy the following principle: BCSTA supports the use of a variety of instructional strategies for addressing student differences, including...</i>	BCSTA members in General Meetings Provincial Council (on interim basis)	Substantive (ordinary) resolution: simple majority
Action Resolutions	Define an action that the Association will take, usually on a specific issue. (Note: This makes up the majority of resolutions currently passed at AGM and PC.)	<i>That BCSTA urge the Ministry of Education to review the transportation funding formula....</i>	BCSTA members in General Meetings Provincial Council	Substantive (ordinary) resolution: simple majority