

I would like to add that I am disappointed and frustrated with the whole mess that is education funding or rather underfunding.

Contrary to the perception that has been created in our local papers recently – Boards are not the enemy in this situation.

This Board is made up of people who are parents, former educators and former district staff members . We are not shameful people but rather people who are trying to use what little influence we have to effect positive change in a shameful system that currently does not appear to deem the education of our children as an imperative piece of our future. This is also a puzzle since our current government platform is creating jobs for BC. Who will transition into these future jobs if we are not preparing our children today

The role of Trustee seems to give people the illusion that we have some power – which sadly we don't.

The power of Boards has been systematically eroded over the past years to a level where we are nothing but figureheads who have no real authority. Has this been done on purpose? Time will tell. The buzz phrase recently is cooperative gains initiatives, centralization – I fear this could one day apply to elected Boards and the voice of individual districts and parents would be lost – maybe that is the plan.

This board has asked parents for help and will continue to ask – they are the missing voice, voters. Boards are being ignored and unions are being tuned out. Write or call your local MLAs and demand proper education for our kids. Start a Facebook page – whatever it takes to make education a priority in this Province. Maybe we set aside one day, same hour province wide for voters to gather at their local MLA office demanding priority status for our K-12 system? This will only be effective if everyone participates – just like the notion that boards should refuse to submit balanced budgets – won't fly if only one or a few do it. Let's pick a day and time and get the word out.

Cutting our budgets every year is not sustainable unless the vision is to move towards education that has no public in it.

Susan Carr

SD 42 Board of Education