

June 20, 2017

The Honourable Mike Bernier
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2
Email: Educ.Minister@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Mike de Jong
Minister of Finance
PO Box 9048 Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria, BC
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Email: Fin.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Ministers:

At its June 19, 2017 public meeting, the Board of Education (Richmond) passed a resolution to write to you expressing its deep concern regarding the lack of confirmation of the full funding from the Classroom Enhancement Fund that our district will require to meet its obligations for the 2017/2018 school year.

The lack of funding confirmation presents serious challenges to our district that includes:

- 1 The delay in our ability to hire the majority of the new teachers required to fulfil the collective agreement and provide much needed services to our students;
- 2 The risk of losing current and potential teachers to other districts which already have the funding they need and are already hiring;
- 3 The increased difficulty of filling positions later in the summer, due to teacher supply and time constraints;
- 4 Our overriding concern for ensuring the next school year starts with the supports and staffing in place that our collective agreement requires and that students deserve.

We urge you to expedite the confirmation of full funding for the staffing plans submitted by the district.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Debbie Tablotney, Chairperson
On Behalf of the Board of Education (Richmond)

Cc Trustees
Superintendent of Schools
Stakeholder Presidents
Richmond MLAs
House Leader, Official Opposition
Education Critic, Official Opposition

Board of Education:
Debbie Tablotney - Chairperson
Sandra Nixon - Vice Chairperson
Ken Hamaguchi Jonathan Ho Donna Sargent
Alice Wong Eric Yung