



BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Chair: Peg Orcheron Vice-Chair: Bev Horsman
Trustees: Catherine Alpha, Tom Ferris, Elaine Leonard
Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Michael McEvoy, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr*

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 61 (GREATER VICTORIA)
556 BOLESKINE ROAD, VICTORIA, BC V8Z 1E8
PHONE (250) 475-4106 FAX (250) 475-4112**

July 15, 2014

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

Mr. Michael Marchbank, Public Administrator
BC Public School Employers' Association
#400 — 1333 West Broadway
Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. Jim Iker, President
BC Teachers' Federation
100 - 550 West 6th Avenue,
Vancouver B.C. V5Z 4P2

Dear Sirs,

The Board of Education of School District No. 61 is extremely concerned about the current state of affairs in bargaining between the BCTF and BCPSEA. While summer is upon us and there appears to be a lull, it is more urgent than ever to find a resolution before a storm hits Public Education in September.

Our Board has previously sent letters to Premier Christy Clark, Minister of Education Peter Fassbender, BCPSEA and the BCTF expressing our concerns about fairly negotiating class size and composition, urging proper and full funding from the Ministry of Education and requesting a mediator in the current dispute. Our Board would like to reiterate our request for an immediate resolution to this matter.

We write again today to strongly urge all of you to identify with and reaffirm that each of you have a common purpose, that of providing quality Public Education to our students. Please utilize whatever tools you have to find a solution now, in order that we can move forward with providing our students, their parents and our communities with certainty and stability in Public Education for the first day of school. Our students deserve no less. Our Public Education system and all of those who work within it deserve no less.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P. Orcheron".

Peg Orcheron
Board Chair

Cc: Sherri Bell, Superintendent of Schools
Trustees
Boards of Education c/o BCSTA
MLA's