

July 15, 2019

Honourable Rob Fleming Minister of Education PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria BC. V8W9E2

VIA EMAIL: educ.minister@gov.bc.ca

Re: Expansion of United Way School's Out Program

Dear Minister Fleming,

I am writing to support the United Way's initiative to expand the School's Out program beyond the Lower Mainland as well as a deepening of support within the Lower Mainland. Our Vancouver School District has partnered with the United Way since 2005 through the Community Schools Partnership.

Schools are natural gathering places for the community they serve and our partnership with the United Way has helped strengthen those bonds. The program ensures that children (ages 6-12) are safe and engaged in structured and supervised activities during the critical hours of 3pm-6pm after school. In the Vancouver School District, the School's Out program is run in partnership with School District Community School Team staff, and we believe this is a critical component to the program in order to best serve the needs of students who participate.

The program offers a variety of activities reflective of the school and community needs and is aimed at supporting children to reach their full potential. Expanding this program will ensure that children, no matter where they live in the province, have access to exceptional learning experiences during Out of School Time.

Yours truly,

Janet Fraser Board Chair

cc: Honourable Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Childcare

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