



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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September 22, 2009

Mr. Stephen Hansen, Executive Director
BC School Trustees Association
4th floor - 1580 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V6J 5K9

Dear Mr. Hansen:

Re: Proposed Resolutions to BCSTA's October 24, 2009 Provincial Council Meeting

The Vancouver Board of Education wishes to submit the following proposed resolutions to BCSTA's October 24th Provincial Council meeting. These resolutions were approved by the Board on 2009 September 21.

- 1. Title:** BCSTA Advocacy Plan:
AFG Cancellation and Provincial Budget Update
- Submitted by:** Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver)
- Resolution:** BE IT RESOLVED

That the Vancouver Board of Education request the BCSTA to develop a province-wide advocacy plan to respond to the cancellation of the AFG program and other proposed cuts to boards of education arising from the September 1, 2009, *Province of BC Budget Update*.

That the following elements be included in the advocacy plan:

- a. Strongly opposing the cancellation of the Annual Facilities Grant (AFG) program for the 2009-10 school year.
- b. Urging the Ministry of Education to restore fully AFG funding to boards of education for the 2009-10 school year and beyond.
- c. Requesting the Province of BC to ensure that boards of education are provided with adequate funding from the Ministry of Health to cover measures recommended by the Provincial Health Officer.
- d. Calling on the Province of BC to provide boards of education with adequate funding to cover the cost of increased MSP premiums for school district employees.

Board of School Trustees:

Patti Bacchus - Chairperson

Jane Bouey - Vice-Chairperson

Allan Blakey Ken Clement Ken Denike

Carol Gibson Sharon Gregson Mike Lombardi

Allan Wong

- e. Requesting the Province of BC to ensure that boards of education are provided with the 75% Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) rebate that will be made available to municipalities.
- f. Calling on the Ministry of Education to ensure that prior to the implementation of the all day Kindergarten program, consultations be held with the BCSTA, Boards of Education, Coalition of Child Care Advocates, BC Teachers Federation, BC Public Schools Employee Association, BC College of Teachers and other appropriate organizations to develop a comprehensive plan for developing and implementing the program, and that the plan include a fully funded budget plan that takes into account, human resources, facilities, curriculum, and related matters.
- g. Requesting the Province of BC to reinstate the \$20 per-student grant to school-based Parent Advisory Councils.

Rationale: Since the 2009 AGM the BCSTA has increased its advocacy efforts related to educational funding. Many individual boards have also engaged in advocacy initiatives. The cancellation of the Annual Facilities Grant and the additional cuts announced through the provincial update requires the ramping up of these advocacy efforts. The resolution identifies some of the elements of such an advocacy plan.

2. Title: School Trustee Communications

Submitted by: Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver)

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED

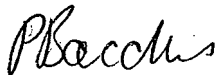
That the BCSTA establish a province-wide email list to be made available to all school trustees for the purpose of facilitating the sharing of information, enhancing communications, and networking amongst school trustees.

Rationale: At the present time there is no province-wide email list for school trustees. The BCSTA has a mailing list for Board chairpersons. A province-wide email list would enable all school trustees throughout the province to network and share information. Most provincial partner organizations have such mailing lists.

With the current education funding crisis, it would be very useful for school trustees to have a province wide network for sharing and exchanging information. The mailing list would also enhance communications between the BCSTA, boards of education, and individual trustees.

If you have any questions regarding the above resolutions, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,



Patti Bacchus
Chairperson

cc: Trustees
Laurie Anderson, Superintendent of Schools
Brenda Ng, Secretary Treasurer