

# COPACS

The Confederation of Parents' Advisory Councils of Saanich

March 17, 2024

Dear School Trustees and School District Leadership,

COPACS is writing to express our appreciation for the presentation on the SD63 Appeals Process at our Special Meeting on February 28, 2024. The opportunity to learn, increase understanding and discuss ideas was valued and appreciated.

The School District outlined some changes they are going to make to the District and school websites to enable parents to understand the process more easily, including the addition of a flowchart of the process.

COPACS members expressed the desire for more active reference and distribution of available processes, procedures and supports for families and are writing to advocate for more frequent and consistent communication regarding policies, processes and supports in communications with parents and caregivers. This could look like, but not be limited to, being informed by SD staff, teachers, administrators and support staffs of the ability and processes for escalating their issue either verbally, through inclusion of standard wording in email signatures, references within fall welcome packages, newsletters and first school assemblies, among others.

COPACS, in turn, will endeavour to increase awareness amongst families by hosting training sessions and developing written materials that can be distributed through PACs.

Families and PACs require clear and accessible information that allows them to understand how and where to address concerns as well as available supports for those who are not comfortable or have the capacity to go through these conversations alone.

As shared at the Feb 28th Special COPACS meeting on the SD Appeals process, every door is the right door for families. Parent advocacy is expected, desired and supportive of our mutual goals.

In the spirit of partnership and yours in service for our kids,

Megan

COPACS President

CC: COPACS exec members and Educational Partner groups  
BCC: School PACs and COPACS reps