

The Confederation of Parents' Advisory Councils of Saanich

April 13, 2024

To: Honourable Minister of Education and Child Care Rachna Singh

Re: Advocacy for funding inflationary costs and funding formula review recommendations

Dear Minister,

The Confederation of Parents' Advisory Councils of Saanich (COPACS) is writing to advocate for sustainable funding of our School District's budgets that funds inflationary costs for programming and infrastructure as well as adjustments to the funding formula as recommended within the 2018 Report on the Funding Review Model Panel: Improving Equity and Accountability that equitably funds districts such as ours that are neither growing or shrinking.

There is a critical and unfair flaw in the funding model that is putting our strategic goals at risk; exacerbated by unfunded program and infrastructure inflationary costs. Our district is no longer able to fund its technology plan: within five years there will likely be no deployment of student devices and further program and staffing reductions are likely. Unless this funding shortfall is fixed, our District will almost certainly experience cuts to programming that will affect the education of our children.

Thank you for your dedication to our children and for your support in ensuring sufficient and equitable funding for our education system.

Sincerely,

COPACS Executive

CC:

- Tim Dunford, Chair SD 63 Board of Trustees (tdunford@saanichschools.ca)
- Saanich Teachers' Association (lp63@bctf.ca)
- Candace Whitney, President CUPE 441
- Dave Eberwein, School District 63 Superintendent (deberwein@saanichschools.ca)
- Jason Reid, School District 63 Secretary Treasurer (jreid@saanichschools.ca)
- Steve MacGregor and Aaron Buckham, Co-Presidents, Saanich Administrators Association (smacgregor@saanichschools.ca and abuckham@saanichschools.ca)
- Elizabeth May, MP Saanich / Gulf Islands (elizabeth.may.c1a@parl.gc.ca)
- Adam Olsen, MLA Saanich North and the Islands (adam.olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca)
- Lana Popham, MLA Saanich South (lana.popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca)
- BCCPAC

bcc:

SD63 PAC and COPACS Members