

September 24, 2020

The Honourable Rob Fleming
Minister of Education
Ministry of Education

Dear Minister Fleming:

Re: Request to Postpone Foundation Skills Assessments

The North Vancouver Board of Education respectfully requests that the Ministry of Education postpone the Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA's) that are scheduled to be administered at the beginning of October. Stress due to COVID-19 is prevalent among our teaching staff, and the added pressure of administering tests to students who have missed four months of In-Class learning, is not good for the mental health and well-being of both teachers and students.

With levels of anxiety high in our community, we feel teachers need time to get themselves and their students settled back into classrooms using the new health and safety protocols. As well, students who are transitioning back to the classroom would not be included in an October testing. With a focus on safety, levels of anxiety can be eased and the focus on learning can be resumed.

I appreciate that October is fast approaching, but trust that a decision can be made to best support both students and our teachers.

Sincerely,

NORTH VANCOUVER
BOARD OF EDUCATION



Christie Sacré
Chair

cc Board of Education, North Vancouver School District
Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District
Jacqui Stewart, Secretary Treasurer, North Vancouver School District