

September 19, 2014

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
P.O. Box 9045, Strn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Mr. Jim Iker, President
British Columbia Teachers' Federation
100 – 550 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5Z 4P2

Mr. Michael Marchbank, Public Administrator
BC Public School Employers' Association
400 – 1333 West Broadway
Vancouver BC V6H 4C1

Dear Minister Fassbender, Mr. Iker and Mr. Marchbank,

RE: Returning students to school

The North Vancouver Board of Education would like to express our gratitude for the hard work of the bargaining parties, with the assistance of mediator Vince Ready, to secure a negotiated contract between the Province and the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (BCTF). We would also like to express our whole-hearted appreciation for the patience and understanding of our staff, student and parent communities who have felt the effects of an extremely challenging period in public education.

We appreciate that the 6-year agreement will bring a considerable measure of stability to our public education system. What we further hope, and will continue to work towards locally, is that the years ahead will be used to improve understanding and collaboration to better support student learning and success.

The Board has consistently and fully respected the democratic rights and processes that both parties have engaged in throughout this difficult situation. Moving forward, we believe a higher level of commitment to cooperative, open dialogue would be a valuable first step towards re-establishing relationships and confidence in our public education system.

For the sake of all students, we expect no less.

Respectfully,

NORTH VANCOUVER
BOARD OF EDUCATION



Franci Stratton
Chair

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cc. John Lewis, Superintendent of Schools
Georgia Allison, Secretary Treasurer
North Vancouver Teachers Association
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 389
North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council
North Vancouver Administrators' Association
The Honourable Christy Clark, Premier of British
Columbia
Layne Christensen, Editor, North Shore News

Ralph Sultan, MLA West Vancouver—Capilano
Jane Thornthwaite, MLA North Vancouver—Seymour
Hon. Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of State for Small Business, MLA North
Vancouver—Lonsdale
Teresa Rezansoff, President, British Columbia School Trustees Association
Mayor Mussatto and Council, City of North Vancouver
Mayor Walton and Council, District of North Vancouver
All Boards of Education c/o BCSTA