

Saanich Schools

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November 6, 2014

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender,

The Board of Education of School District No. 63 (Saanich) would like to communicate its support for the BCSTA letter written to yourself and The Honourable Mike de Jong on October 14, 2014 regarding teachers' pay for the month of September 2014.

School District No. 63 (Saanich) is one of the districts in the province that, using the express language of the collective agreement, calculated seven days of pay for the month of September. When it became known that other districts' collective agreement language calculated eight days of pay, a tenuous situation ensued requiring extensive communication to our union local and to our union members, that School District No. 63 (Saanich) was not choosing to reduce what the members were paid - instead, the district was strictly following the language of the collective agreement. Unfortunately, at a time when relationship-building was crucial, this issue brought additional strain and anxiety to our educational system that was intensely hoping to return to its exceptional norms.

In the interest of provincial harmony, our Board would like to encourage government to consider funding an additional day of pay so that employees in all districts in British Columbia are being treated equitably.

Sincerely,



Wayne Hunter
Chair
Board of Education
School District No. 63 (Saanich)

WH/da

Cc: BCSTA

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