



BC CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS

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September 15, 2008

The Honourable Shirley Bond
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045
Station PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC, V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Bond,

At the 2008 BCCPAC Annual General Meeting, member delegates representing PACs and DPACs came together from across the province to discuss issues vital to student success.

Several resolutions were specifically destined to your Ministry, and we bring these to your attention.

Resolution 2008.19: Independent Panels for Teacher Discipline

BCCPAC support the appointment of independent panels which include professional representation, to adjudicate on discipline reports and hearings for the B.C. College of Teachers, with panel members reporting to both the College Council and the public, to better protect the public interest and students.

Resolution 2008.20: Limits on the Term of Office for School Trustees

BCCPAC urge the Minister of Education to amend the School Act and other relevant Legislation to limit the term of office of School Trustees to a maximum of three consecutive terms; however, there shall be no limit on the total number of terms any Trustee may serve

Resolution 2008.21: Student Loan Forgiveness for School District Employees

BCCPAC strongly urge the provincial government, on behalf of rural school districts, to provide and fund incentive, including the implementation of the forgiveness for student loan program, to allow these districts to attract and retain qualified individuals.

Resolution 2008.22: Construction Guidelines for Occupied Schools

BCCPAC advocate for the Ministry of Education to develop guidelines for construction during periods when students occupy a school.

Resolution 2008.24: Safe Outdoor Temperature

That BCCPAC urge the Ministry of Education to develop a policy that prevents schools from sending primary and elementary students outside to play during weather conditions that are colder than below -20 degrees Celsius including the wind chill factor.

Resolution 2008.25: Parental Involvement in Schools

That BCCPAC request the Minister of Education to amend the School Act to provide that parents of pre-school children registered in a pre-school program offered by a Board of Education in a public school are entitled to membership and participation in that school's Parent Advisory Council

Resolution 2008.29: Anaphylaxis Protocol

BCCPAC urge the minister of education to change the following points in the new anaphylaxis protocol in order to be in line with the ministerial order and the framework of recommendations from the Provincial Anaphylaxis Advisory Committee (PAAC) Framework which parents were a part of.

The changes we are requesting are:

- a) A picture of the student to be placed on the anaphylaxis emergency plan form.
- b) That asthma be included on the emergency plan as a secondary diagnosis. We also wish to see the addition of anaphylaxis to medications.
- c) Full disclosure of resources available to school boards and parents.
- d) Training for both auto-injectors: EpiPen and Twinject (first dose)
- e) Specific risk reduction directives to include education on incident avoidance. Directives specifically at a classroom/cafeteria/food lab level regarding allergens, cleaning directives etc.
- f) A specific directive for proper tracking of incidents for future review and assessment on the effectiveness of management strategies.
- g) Specific plans to help school boards implement change (i.e., documentation, risk reduction education and staff training) within schools.

Resolution 2008.30: Child Poverty is Also an Education Problem

That the BCCPAC petition the provincial government to recognize that children in poverty are one of the greatest challenges to the education of all our children, and that more action is needed to address child poverty in B.C.

We kindly ask that your Ministry review these resolutions, and we welcome an opportunity to discuss these with you at your earliest convenience.

For the future, for all our children,

Ron Broda
BCCPAC President