

# Uplands Parent Advisory Council, SD#68 Nanaimo-Ladysmith

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28 February, 2018

Ministry of Education  
Funding and Allocation

Re: K-12 Public Education Funding Model Review

On behalf of Uplands Park Elementary School PAC (Nanaimo, BC), we note the following items for input for the K12 Funding Review:

Greatest Challenges/Barriers:

- Implement a lower threshold for Elementary Principals to get Vice Principals.
- Additional Psychologists in School Districts to assess students in need of diagnosis for processing disorders, ADHD, dyslexia, etc.
- Additional EA's to support teaching staff to initially identify and support students in need of diagnosis.
- Add full time councilors for each elementary school for the whole week and school year to work with staff and families to support students. This will result in improved self-regulated behavior, promoting a more effective learning environment.
- Additional Music teacher time for all grades in elementary schools. It appears that music program was reduced significantly for addition of a French teacher for grades 5-7.
- Additional funding to implement IEPs in all schools.
- Promote daily physical activities that involve games and sports with rules and referees. Part of learning opportunities to deal with disappointment and good sportsmanship / kindness.
- Add funding for security and strategies regarding homeless and drug users on school property after hours.
- Increase gaming grant funding for field trips and playgrounds distributed by PACs.
- Increased enrollment has reduced available on site space for before and after school care. Allow SD to install portables to house before and after school care so it doesn't interfere with school's library, gym and other rooms that would be used for other after school clubs and enrichment endeavours. This should be part of the overall day care strategy within the province.
- Implement meaningful long term planning of facilities using available census information to better project expanding and contracting enrollment numbers to reduce reactionary / duress decision making by SD staff and Trustees.
- Safe school routes and traffic calming devices.

Please retain and support:

- First Nations reconciliation
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
- Staff Professional Development
- Introduction to Kindergarten
- Strong Start Pre-Schools
- Bursary/Post-Secondary School grant(s)

Thank you for the opportunity to present this brief overview of issues and items for your consideration in crafting the next funding formula.

Regards,

Tim Chapman, Vice Chair  
Uplands Park School PAC