

# Vancouver District Parent Advisory Council

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c/o VSB 1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8 Telephone: 604-713-4513 Fax: 604-713-4536

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February 2, 2010

Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid  
Minister of Education  
PO Box 9045 STN PROV GVT  
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E2  
[Minister.educ@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Minister.educ@gov.bc.ca) Fax: 250-387-3200

Dear Dr. MacDiarmid,

As representatives of the parents/guardians of 55,000 children in Vancouver public schools, we are writing to express the urgent necessity that your government **not** shift unfunded costs on to local school boards in the 2010-2011 school year.

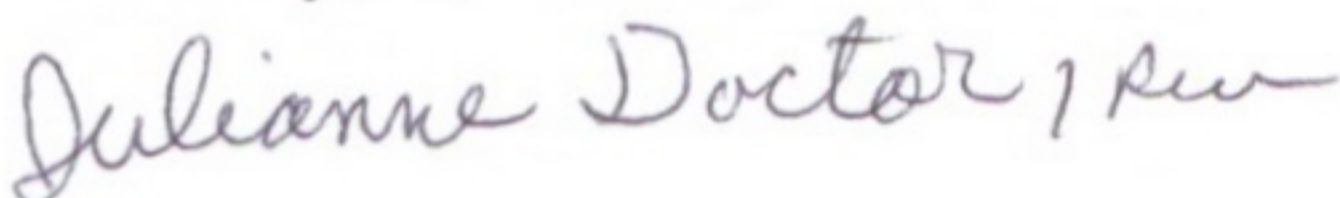
These downloaded costs will result in a SD39 minimum shortfall of 17 million dollars and are not in areas where boards have the discretion to spend less. Items which your government has so far refused to cover in provincial education funding grants include:

- Salary and benefit increases negotiated by your government;
- Carbon tax and offset charges;
- MSP and WCP premium increases;
- Full-day K and Bill 33 implementation costs.

The education of all of our students – typical, ESL, special needs, aboriginal – will be profoundly impacted by any further cuts to our already stretched district budget.

On behalf of Vancouver parents and children, we insist that your government fully fund all provincially mandated costs in the budget it presents March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Sincerely,



Julianne Doctor  
Chair, Vancouver District Parent Advisory Council

c: Vancouver PACs  
BCCPAC  
Patti Bacchus, Chair, Vancouver Board of Education  
Hon. Gordon Campbell, Premier [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca) Fax: 250-387-0087  
Hon. Colin Hansen, Minister of Finance [colin.hansen.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:colin.hansen.mla@leg.bc.ca) Fax: 250-387-5594