



Prince George District Teachers' Association
#101 – 1968 Queensway, Prince George, BC V2L 1M2
Phone: (250)562-7214 Fax: (250)562-5743

February 9, 2023

Ms. Rachel Weber, Chair Board of Trustees
School District No. 57
2100 Ferry Avenue
Prince George, BC
V2L 4R5

Dear Ms. Weber:

Re: Board Meeting of December 13, 2022 and January 21, 2023

As President of the Prince George District Teachers' Association, I have additional concerns regarding the Board Meetings on December 13, 2022 and January 31, 2023.

As a main stakeholder and representative of 1000 teachers and associate professionals in Prince George, Mackenzie, McBride and Valemount, I attend Board meetings in order to participate in meaningful discussion about school district priorities, policies and procedures. My role is to uphold and defend the rights of teachers in our district. Together, my members, and their union, support a public education system that upholds the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion of all students in our District. These values are integral to an inclusive and successful place to work and learn.

Any insinuation by a member of the public that teaching SOGI, a set of Ministry approved resources, is "grooming", undermines the professionalism of the educators we have in our district. The assertion by the attendee of the Board meeting that, "student-teacher abuse cases are up, the number of children having psychological issues is up, and the amount of children who are confused about their gender is up" is inflammatory and offensive. Further, your next meeting's comment that I didn't have my facts straight was unbecoming of a Board chair. As an officer of a union in the lawful conduct of my duties of representation, your public conduct against me, after the offensive comments made by a member of the public, was unacceptable.

Policy 4.8.7 in the Trustee Code of Conduct states that "Trustees be aware of their obligations as outlined in the BC Human Rights Code." It is my contention that the comments made at the meeting, and the subsequent response of you as Chair, did not adequately support the students under our collective watch, nor the professional expertise of our workforce, from disrespect.

I hope that in future we can build a more collaborative working relationship in service of students, families, and the workforce that make our District what it is.

Regards,



Daryl Beauregard
President, Prince George District Teachers' Association

cc: Craig Brennan, Board Vice Chair
Cory Antrim, Trustee
Betty Bekkering, Trustee
Gillian Burnett, Trustee
Erica McLean, Trustee
Bob Thompson, Trustee
Cindy Heitman, Superintendent of Schools
Darleen Patterson, Secretary-Treasurer
Clint Johnston, BCTF President
Shannon Pride, President Mackenzie TA
Shirley Giroux, President Robson Valley TA
Prince George Media