

March 2, 2018

The Honourable Rob Fleming  
Minister of Education  
PO Box 9045, Stn. Prov. Govt.  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fleming,

At the public meeting of February 28, 2018 the Board of Education School District No. 38 Richmond unanimously resolved to bring to your attention our extreme concern and disappointment over the new Employer Health Tax recently announced with the Provincial Budget that will impact most businesses including school districts. The implementation of this new payroll tax of 1.95% of total payroll costs effective January 1, 2019, will result in an incremental cost increase of \$1.5 million to our school district for 2018/2019 and \$3 million for 2019/2020. This announced new tax will effectively reduce services and resources to our classrooms and students.

School districts should either be exempted from this tax or alternatively additional funding should be provided by the Ministry of Education. Either of these options would ensure that our school district's limited resources and budget are not reduced and educational services to our students are not impacted. We respectfully request that the provincial government consider exempting school districts from this new tax or alternatively provide additional ongoing funding to cover the increased costs to school districts.

Sincerely,



Dr. Eric Yung, Chairperson  
On Behalf of the Board of Education (Richmond)

Cc Trustees  
Superintendent of Schools  
Secretary Treasurer  
Richmond MLAs  
Minister of Finance  
House Leader, Official Opposition  
Education Critic, Official Opposition  
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