From: Carla Skrodolis < >
Sent: February 18, 2022 9:48 AM
To: Charlene Mckay <<u>Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca</u>>
Subject: District Mandate

CAUTION: External Message

Dear Ms. McKay,

It has come to my attention that School District 68 is requesting personal health information from its staff and is planning to mandate staff to be vaccinated to maintain their employment. I'm also aware that testing will be required for undisclosed or unvaccinated individuals.

After two years of incredibly challenging teaching conditions, it is disappointing that the district would impose undue pressure and hardship among its staff by imposing this mandate. If School District 68 trusts its educators to educate the citizens of the future, can you not trust and respect them to research COVID vaccines for themselves and make their own informed health decisions? Do you not encourage your teachers to develop critical thinkers? In encouraging all staff to be vaccinated, as posted on your website, you are taking the place of an individual's doctor, which you are not qualified to do.

It is understandable to try to ensure the safety of all students and staff. That is not in dispute. Those who want to be vaccinated have that option. But even more importantly, one must ask why vaccinations are the only solution provided by provincial health authorities. This lack of problem-solving is inadequate and unacceptable.

As countries around the world and provinces in Canada respond to the scientific facts and are reducing their restrictions, why does School District 68 continue to proceed toward inappropriate and ineffective mandates? Dr. Bonnie Henry has acknowledged that everyone is likely to get COVID, and furthermore, testing is no longer required for all individuals suspected of having COVID. Added to this is the fact that individuals who are "fully" vaccinated are catching and spreading COVID.

I encourage you to respect your staff and honor the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. I also implore you to openly address the concerns your staff have about vaccine mandates and testing requirements, as your strategic plan lists that your district is committed to "truth". It is puzzling that a school district responsible for education has not researched "adverse reactions associated with the COVID vaccine". I encourage you to lead by example and do the research. If your research changes your understanding, please do the honorable thing and change your position. That is what you would expect from the students you are educating, wouldn't you? As a district that claims to be committed to truth and reconciliation, I would expect that you would inform yourselves on all sides

of an issue, obtain facts, question those who make decisions that affect others, and respect diversity. Does not the experience of residential schools compel you to do so in this situation?

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely, Carla Skrodolis

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