

**From:** [Karen Matthews](#)  
**To:** [Karen Matthews](#)  
**Subject:** Inquiry about use of Supplemental Funding  
**Date:** July 8, 2022 8:52:11 AM

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**From:** Secretary <[secretary@downsyndromebc.ca](mailto:secretary@downsyndromebc.ca)>  
**Sent:** July 4, 2022 4:22 PM  
**To:** Superintendent <[Superintendent@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:Superintendent@sd68.bc.ca)>; Secretary-Treasurer <[SecretaryTreasurer@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:SecretaryTreasurer@sd68.bc.ca)>; Charlene McKay <[Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca)>; [DirectorofInstructionElementary@sd68.ca.ca](mailto:DirectorofInstructionElementary@sd68.ca.ca)  
**Subject:** Inquiry about use of Supplemental Funding

**CAUTION:** External Message

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July 4, 2022

School District No. 68, Nanaimo-Ladysmith

Scott Saywell  
Superintendent of Schools  
Via  
Email: [Superintendent@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:Superintendent@sd68.bc.ca)

Mark Walsh  
Secretary Treasurer  
Via Email: [SecretaryTreasurer@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:SecretaryTreasurer@sd68.bc.ca)

Charlene McKay  
Board of Trustees, Board Chair  
Via Email:  
[charlene.mckay@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:charlene.mckay@sd68.bc.ca)

Kerri Steel  
Director of Instruction, Inclusive Education  
(Elementary), Via Email:  
[DirectorofInstructionElementary@sd.68.bc.ca](mailto:DirectorofInstructionElementary@sd.68.bc.ca)

Dear Mr. Saywell, Ms. McKay, Mr. Walsh and Ms. Steel:

Down syndrome BC is a non-profit organization working to share information that supports the health and well-being of individuals with Down syndrome. We [wrote to the Ministry of Education](#), as well as all BC school boards, in October 2021 to share

information and recommendations for the effective and inclusive education of learners with Down syndrome.

We are concerned that learners with Down syndrome are not receiving an effective education, are not being included in mainstream classes appropriate to their age and are not receiving the supports they need.

Approximately \$664.4 million was received by school districts for the 2021/22 school year for supplemental funding to support students with disabilities with the expectation that school districts are using the additional funding to provide the supports and services students with disabilities need.

The Ministry of Education has told us that accountability lies with the school districts and if parents or others wish to see how the money sent to the school district to promote inclusion and provide services for children with disabilities is spent, they can ask for an accounting, including budgeting and a report on outcomes from the school district.

Please provide an accounting for the supplemental funding you received, including answers to the following questions:

1. How much funding have you received to support inclusion and students with disabilities?
2. What decisions have you made to allocate money to foster inclusion and to support students with disabilities? Please include names and/or descriptions of specific programs, initiatives or practices and the approximate annual budget for each.
3. How do you track the money to ensure it is spent to support your decisions?
4. How do you measure the success of your decisions and how often do you review your allocation decisions?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,



Tamara Taggart  
President, Down Syndrome BC



Mary Ann Cummings  
Secretary, Down Syndrome BC



Danielle Gibbons  
Director, Down Syndrome BC

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