From:Karen MatthewsTo:Karen MatthewsSubject:K Collins : Thank You For Your Support of LFIDate:December 16, 2024 9:43:15 AM

From: Kathryn Collins < >

Sent: Saturday, December 14, 2024 1:53 PM

**To:** Tania Brzovic <<u>Tania.Brzovic@sd68.bc.ca</u>>; Tim Harris <<u>Tim.Harris@sd68.bc.ca</u>>; Chantelle Morvay <<u>Chantelle.Morvay@sd68.bc.ca</u>>

Subject: Thank You For Your Support of LFI

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December 14, 2024

Dear School Board Trustees Ms Tania Brzovic, Ms. Chatalle Morvay and Mr. Tim Harris,

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to those of you who have shown hesitation in moving forward with the vote to cancel the Late French Immersion (LFI) program. Your willingness to pause, reflect, and consider the far-reaching implications of this decision demonstrates your commitment to listening to the community and prioritizing the best interests of students and families.

The LFI program represents a unique and invaluable opportunity for children in our district to develop bilingual skills, cultural awareness, and expanded career prospects. Families like mine have been waiting and preparing for years for this opportunity, which was promised to our children. My own family has been deeply invested in this program; one of my children is thriving in it now, and another was eagerly anticipating their turn to join next year. We were unsuccessful in the lottery for Early French Immersion seven years ago and have been patiently waiting for our turn to join the French Program at NLPS. Canceling this program so suddenly would be a devastating loss, not only for current students but for future generations as well.

This is not simply about a single program—it's about ensuring access to quality educational opportunities that enrich our children's lives and futures. Voting against this cancellation sends a powerful message that this board values the diverse needs and inclusion of its students and is willing to fight for programs that serve them well.

I hope you will continue to advocate for the preservation of this program and work to persuade your fellow trustees to reconsider. Decisions like these have long-term consequences, and our children deserve the chance to pursue the bilingual education they have been promised seven years ago.

Thank you for standing with our children and for your thoughtful consideration of this

critical issue.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Collins

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