From: School Board Office
To: Lise Bradshaw

Subject: FW: Concerns Regarding Support for Special Needs Students and Field Trips

Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 8:13:46 AM

From: Christina Pretty

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 11:07 PM

To: School Board Office <SchoolBoard.Office@sd23.bc.ca>

Subject: Concerns Regarding Support for Special Needs Students and Field Trips

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Dear School Board Members,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concerns as a parent of a child with special needs regarding the support provided to my son in the classroom and, more specifically, his exclusion from school field trips due to the lack of necessary support. I believe it is crucial that you uphold the principles outlined in your school's mission statement, which states, "To educate students in a safe, inclusive, equitable, and inspirational learning environment where each learner develops the attributes and competencies to flourish in a global community."

While I appreciate the efforts of the school in many areas, it appears that there are significant gaps in the support system for children with special needs like my child. Their educational journey is marred by the fact that they are not receiving the support they require to thrive academically and socially.

I am particularly concerned about the recent decision to exclude my son from participating in school field trips. It is disheartening to learn that your school does not have the necessary resources or supports in place to enable children like mine to be part of these enriching experiences. Field trips are not only opportunities for learning but also for social interaction and personal growth. Denying my child and others like them these opportunities is not in line with the inclusive and equitable environment that your school strives to provide.

I kindly request that the school board provide a clear explanation as to why my child and others in their situation are being denied the support they need to participate fully in the educational and extracurricular activities offered by the school, especially when extra funding is provided to the school for children with designations. It is my hope that through an open dialogue, we can work together to ensure that every student, regardless of their special needs, has an equal opportunity to thrive within your school community.

I look forward to your response and a constructive discussion on how we can address these concerns and ensure that your school remains a place where all students can truly

flourish.
Thank you for your attention to this matter.
Sincerely,
Christina Pretty