

From: [Susan Bauhart](#)
To: [Board of Education](#)
Cc: [Lori Dawsonbedard](#); [Mary Hope](#); [Cupe President](#); [Copac President](#)
Subject: SD 23 Budget Unknowns
Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 1:54:29 PM
Importance: High

<https://www.peacearchnews.com/local-news/surrey-students-plan-march-to-push-for-bc-school-funding-7918382>

<https://www.kelownacapnews.com/news/school-supplies-staff-could-be-cut-to-meet-vernon-budget-7925358>

Good afternoon:

I am hoping these above links work for all of you to read the articles yourselves, but basically, they are about the underfunding of public education that affects us all.

The first article talks about the fact that the Surrey school district and their Trustees are facing a 16M dollar shortfall - this has been out in the news for weeks now, yet here we are in SD23, not knowing exactly what we are facing.

The second article is from Vernon's Capital News which states Trustees were advised of their financial situation April 2nd. Specific details have been listed (true transparency), including the total dollar amount of the shortfall, and a list as to the recommendations that Trustees will have to decide on April 16th - and Vernon officials are asking for district input on their recommendations before that meeting on the 16th. The article also states that the Board has consulted widely on how best to do this with minimal impact on students - no such consultation has happened with the COTA at this point, yet SD 23 school staffing meetings have begun already. And again, here we are as stakeholders, not knowing exactly what we are facing. I admit, if the Capital News is reporting this in Vernon, I am surprised Barry is not doing the same here.

I would appreciate knowing exactly what challenges we are facing in SD 23 well before our finance meeting on the 16th - specifically how much of a shortfall we are facing as well as a specific list as to where staff are recommending to Trustees that the 'cuts' be made.

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,
Susan

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... the rain begins with a single drop

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