

Date: 7/5/2026 3:50:19 PM
From: Raegan Hall
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
I am a: Parent/Caregiver

Dear SD23 Board of Education

I am writing as a parent in School District 23 to respectfully request that the district reconsider the practice of classroom Mother's Day and Father's Day gift-making activities in elementary schools.

British Columbia families look very different today than they did a generation ago. Children may be raised by a single parent, grandparents, foster parents, adoptive parents, same-sex parents, blended families, or other loving caregivers. Some students have experienced the death or absence of a parent, while others have complex family situations that are deeply personal.

Although these activities are well-intentioned, they can unintentionally remind some children that their family does not fit the traditional "mother and father" model. For those students, what is intended to be a joyful classroom activity can instead become a source of anxiety, sadness, or exclusion.

Schools strive to be places where every child feels they belong. In my view, school-sponsored Mother's Day and Father's Day crafts no longer reflect the diversity of families that exist within our classrooms. These celebrations are deeply meaningful, but they are also personal family occasions that can be celebrated at home in whatever way is most meaningful to each family.

Rather than organizing gifts specifically for Mother's Day or Father's Day, I encourage SD23 to simply discontinue these classroom activities. This approach treats all families equally and avoids placing teachers in the difficult position of navigating individual family circumstances.

Removing these activities is not about diminishing the importance of mothers or fathers. It is about recognizing that schools serve every child, regardless of their family structure, and ensuring that no student feels excluded because of circumstances beyond their control.

SD23 has demonstrated a strong commitment to inclusion, belonging, and student well-being. I believe this would be another thoughtful step toward creating classrooms where every child feels equally seen and respected.

Thank you for considering this recommendation. I appreciate your commitment to supporting all students and families in our district.

Sincerely,
Raegan Hall

Parent, School District 23

"True inclusion sometimes means recognizing when long-standing traditions no longer reflect the diversity of the students we serve."

I acknowledge that by submitting this form, the correspondence provided may be listed in the Board Correspondence item on an upcoming Public Board Meeting agenda, and a copy may be uploaded to the District's website under "Board Correspondence". (Any personal information such as address and email will be redacted). Some correspondence may be considered as "incamera" and will not be made public. If you have questions regarding this process, please call 250-860-8888).



Yes, I acknowledge this process.