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## BOARD OF EDUCATION

July 15, 2014

The Honourable Peter Fassbender Minister of Education PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9E2	Jim Iker, President BC Teachers' Federation 100-550 West 6th Avenue Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2	Mr. Michael Marchbank, Public Administrator BC Public School Employers' Association 400-1333 West Broadway Vancouver, BC V6H 4C1
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Dear Minister Fassbender, Mr. Iker and Mr. Marchbank:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) to express our dismay that there is no bargaining happening between the parties to resolve the BC Education labour dispute and that summer is quickly passing without efforts to ensure a stable, positive return to school in September for students, teachers, school district staff and their families.

Once again, we urge you to bring some flexibility to the table, pursue the opportunity to mediate the differences with the well-regarded Justice Stephen Kelleher and commit to reaching a collective agreement in the next six weeks.

It is hard to express how difficult the lockout/pay reduction and strike action have been for our students and school communities. This must not continue into September and only you can determine that. Our students and staff must have stability and predictable timelines to start off the year. We have a terrific education system in this province and the risk of damage to hard-won relationships and innovative programming is higher each day and week that passes with the current dispute. We will do our part in delivering the finest education possible at the local level. We urge you to do your part and give us the tools to start a new school year that will be safe, positive and productive for students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Betty Baxter', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Betty Baxter  
Board Chair

p.c. Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)  
Patrick Bocking, Superintendent of Schools  
Nicholas Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer  
Louise Herle, SCTA President  
Carolyn Smith, CUPE Local 801 President  
Nicholas Simons, MLA, Powell River-Sunshine Coast  
All Boards of Education, via BCSTA