



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

October 5, 2023

The Honourable David Eby
Premier of British Columbia
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria B.C. V8W 9E1
premier@gov.bc.ca

Dear Premier Eby,

Subject: Urgent meeting request regarding recent protests in school districts

We are requesting an urgent meeting regarding protests and disruptions at recent board of education meetings, district parent advisory council meetings and similar meetings close to school sites. We have also experienced incidents of individuals protesting near and at schools as children and caregivers enter buildings.

The British Columbia School Trustees Association is very concerned about the recent protests in communities and the disruptions that are taking place. Our priority is to ensure that all students learn in inclusive, welcoming schools and that staff and boards of education are safe to do their work.

We would like to discuss the proactive steps that BCSTA has already taken to support boards of education. These actions include guidance on processes and procedures, including policies, administrative procedures and practical advice, as well as open communication and support between the Ministry of Education and Child Care, the BC Association of School Business Officials and the BC School Superintendents Association. We have also provided one-on-one support and advice for board of education chairs and trustees, including producing and distributing a guide on public engagement at board meetings.



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We would also like to discuss how we can minimize and mitigate disruptions to ensure the safety of staff and the well-being of all students in our care.

Thank you for considering this urgent request. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Broady".

Carolyn Broady

President

British Columbia School Trustees Association

CC: The Honourable Rachna Singh, Minister of Education and Child Care
Christina Zacharuk, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education and Child Care
Matt Smith, Chief of Staff, Office of the Premier
Teresa Downs, president, British Columbia School Superintendents Association
Ray Velestuk, president, British Columbia Association of School Business Officials
BCSTA member boards of education
Suzanne Hoffman, CEO, BCSTA
BCSTA Board of Directors