Dear [Recipient's Name],

I am writing to you, on behalf of the board of education, and as the chair of (blank) School District. As we approach the 2024 elections, we wish to highlight three critical areas of advocacy that are pivotal to enhancing the learning and working conditions for children and staff in our community. We respectfully request, that as you enter into the provincial election campaign, you support and prioritize the needs of our public education system. We have determined three priority issues and are looking for your advocacy in these areas:

**Recruitment and Retention of Staff**

The recruitment and retention of staff remains a fundamental challenge in the (blank) School District. To address this, the (blank) board of education calls for the elimination of barriers to hiring, targeted funding to recruit and retain Indigenous staff and the expansion of teacher training programs and increased support for all districts. BC’s dedicated teachers and support staff are essential in delivering quality education to every learner. A well-supported workforce is vital for learners so they can realize success in their educational journeys.

Increased focus on recruitment and retention strategies, along with support for longer-term retention of staff, is needed to bridge this gap for learners in our communities.

**Capital and Deferred Maintenance Funding**

Schools are more than mere buildings; they are the environments where future generations embark on their educational journeys. Many of BC’s schools are in urgent need of repairs, updates and seismic upgrades. To ensure that our learning environments are safe and reflect the needs of 21st century learning, adequate capital and deferred maintenance funding is needed. There is a need for recognition of these challenges and adjustments to budgeting for school districts. We urge you to advocate for the necessary investments to support the infrastructure of BC’s schools.

**Inclusive Education and Student Success**

Inclusive education ensures that every learner, irrespective of their background or ability, has the opportunity to succeed. This includes providing opportunities for academic success, social and emotional safety and culturally responsive learning environments. We must push for policies that support inclusive education and ensure that every learner can thrive with tailored support, resources and programs that address diverse needs. For this to happen, districts need additional, targeted funding.

Public education is the cornerstone of our democratic society, equipping learners with the knowledge and skills necessary to become informed and engaged citizens. As we approach the 2024 elections, it is imperative that candidates prioritize these essential issues within public education.

(Blank) School District calls for increased advocacy efforts from candidates to understand these priority areas, push for change and maintain momentum on these critical issues. (Blank) urges MLA candidates to actively represent their communities and work collaboratively to address these pressing concerns. Together, we can drive meaningful change in our education system and ensure that all learners, regardless of their location, background or ability, have the tools they need to succeed.

Thank you for your attention and support on these vital matters.

Sincerely,

(Insert Name)