

April 6, 2022

The Hon. Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education
Office of the Minister, Education
228-Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister LaGrange:

Re: **Draft K-6 Curriculum Implementation**

On behalf of the Board of Trustees for Grande Yellowhead Public School Division, I am requesting that you scale back the implementation of the new proposed curriculum to only kindergarten learners for the 2022/23 school. While we appreciate that the scope of implementation has been scaled back, we still believe that a staggered approach – in which a subsequent grade is added each year - is the best way to proceed.

As we previously wrote, we are concerned that the limited time for preparation and the push to institute multiple grades in key subject areas at the primary level will not result in success for our students and would also add further stress to our teachers. In a recent publication of results from a PSBAA survey on the impact of the pandemic on student learning, two-thirds of the respondents identified their primary learners were most impacted by the events of the past two+ years.

We ask that you consider implementing the new curriculum one grade per year, starting with the kindergarten children, to provide time for teachers to collaborate and thoroughly consider how best to teach and assess the new outcomes with their current primary students - who are already struggling in Language Arts and Mathematics – in mind.

Minister LaGrange, while we have witnessed resilience and perseverance from our students and staff, we see the implications of the pandemic on our youngest students. We want the very best for them. Our teachers and the greater school community need to recover and reflect so that they can move forward successfully in the service of our students.

Sincerely,



Dale Karpluk (Apr 6, 2022 21:23 MDT)

Dale Karpluk, Board Chair

Cc Mr. Martin Long, MLA for West Yellowhead
Mr. Shane Getson, MLA for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland
Trustees for GYPSD
Carolyn Lewis, Superintendent
ASBA
PSBAA

