February 15, 2017

RE: Supreme Court of Canada decision interim measures

I wish to thank our principals, vice-principals, teachers, and school-based collaborative decision-making committees for their leadership in implementing the Supreme Court of Canada decision interim measures.

The Coquitlam Teachers’ Association and the District Leadership Team, working closely with our Human Resources personnel, quickly devised a plan to ensure the full implementation of the $2.66 million funding allotted to our school district.

Through collaborative team work, we were successful in hiring 46 new teachers and placing them in our schools by the end of January. In addition, we were able to create seven district positions including learning support teachers who immediately began the work of providing orientation and mentorship opportunities to our new recruits.

The provincial memorandum of agreement (MoA) speaks to recruitment, retention, capacity building, and mentorship. We were able to build all these elements into our planning. We also succeeded in securing one speech and language pathologist, 30 permanent TTOCs, and continuing positions for two school psychologists.

These additional resources and expertise will make meaningful contributions to our school district and especially to our classrooms and schools.

I wish to recognize and thank you all - students, parents, teachers, support staff and administrators - for welcoming and supporting our new teachers!

Sincerely,

Patricia Gartland
Superintendent

cc: Board of Education
    Mark Clay, CPVPA President
    Ken Christensen, CTA President
    Dave Ginter, CUPE President
    Craig Woods, DPAC President

Serving the communities of Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody