



Janet Steffenhagen has been writing about B.C. schools and the B.C. education system for nine years (and experiencing both, as a parent, for 15 years). Her focus is K-12 education but she occasionally writes about post-secondary as well.

E-mail Janet Steffenhagen directly with issues or ideas you would like to see discussed or leave your comments below.

Parents seek delay in decision about QE annex

Comments

Patti Bacchus said:

The rationale I heard from the VSB regarding the short time for public consultation on this proposal was that they needed to give UBC a response in March to the lease offer on the NRC building and that there were other "suitors" interested in opening a school on that site, and that it was a golden opportunity they didn't want to miss. However upon asking a UBC official if there was indeed pressure for an answer, I and other parent reps from the UBC- Dunbar study area were advised last week there was no pressure coming from UBC and they were not considering any other suitors for the site. So why is the VSB consultation process being so rushed?

January 28, 2008 10:22 PM

Parent in Langley said:

I read the article in today's Vancouver Sun titled "School Scandal". It was eerie to hear our same concerns, our same words, our same questions.

We, in Langley, are in the process of "reconfiguring" our South Central area. This reconfiguration is taking the grades 6 and 7s out of our elementary schools and putting them in a middle school of around 750. Then they are taking the grades 9 to 12 out of our high school and somehow moving them all to another high school and making this old high school a 6 to 8 middle school. This process is disrupting about 3000 students. And it's gutting our elementary schools to the point where they will be able to justify closing more schools. This is being done to force 110% capacity so the Ministry of Education will finance new schools on the Willoughby slope. There has been a year long sham of a public consultation process. There has been a year of options presented only to have our Board of Education turn a deaf ear to us.

There is a history of sorts on our web-site www.hdstafford.ca. There is also information at www.canlii.org. Search out what your concerns are and see the case studies. I suggest you find a lawyer before it's too late.

January 29, 2008 5:29 PM

Charles Menzies said:

A lot of the discussion has had the tone that for some reason children living in the UBC area don't deserve a school. HUNDREDS of young children have to bus off campus - not by choice, not to a special program where they can have the luxury of being a big tadpole in a small pool. No, these several hundred young children are being forced 10 plus kilometres way from home to attend schools. People living in the UBC area pay the same taxes as they do in the up-scale neighbourhoods of Dunbar Heights. Apparently though, these children don't have the same rights to have a proper school.