

January 29, 2023

Regarding: Heterogenous model for Ecole Entre-lacs with Penticton Secondary

To Whom It May Concern,

My intent today is to revisit previous discussions starting back from 2020. It was during this year that the CSF started to implement a homogenous structure throughout BC. Our community requested to maintain our heterogenous model, which consisted of K-8 at Ecole Entre-Lacs and 9-12 at Penticton Secondary.

Our hope is that the board would reconsider this request once again. As you are aware, we had no students enter the grade 9 program for 2022/2023, nor have we for the upcoming 2023/2024 school year. We continue to lose students and families as a direct result of this homogenous model, specifically through grades 5-8.

We are failing these students by not providing them a stable future. There is a lack of structure, programming, support and diversity. With our previous heterogenous model, students could continue with their francophone culture, while merging with peers from within our Penticton community. They were provided opportunities to join sport teams, clubs, choose electives, and interact with different students, teachers, and mentors, while maintaining their French culture.

In order to keep our students engaged and involved, we feel providing a diverse range of opportunities will allow our school to grow. The relationship that could be created between the two schools in a heterogenous model, is one that will allow our student body to flourish.

Thank you,

Jodi Edworthy
PAC President