

Zimbra

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**Fwd: ecole Anne Hebert**

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**De :** Luc Morin <luc\_morin@csf.bc.ca>

jeu., 23 avr. 2015 13:59

**Objet :** Fwd: ecole Anne Hebert Pour CA et CCG**À :** Helene Rivest <hrivest@csf.bc.ca>

correspondance

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**De:** "Luc Morin" <luc\_morin@csf.bc.ca>**À:** "Tucker, Katy [VC]" <Katy.Tucker@vch.ca>**Cc:** "Bertrand Dupain" <bertrand\_dupain@csf.bc.ca>, "Roger Hebert" <roger\_hebert@csf.bc.ca>**Envoyé:** Jeudi 23 Avril 2015 13:31:20**Objet:** Re: ecole Anne Hebert

Dear Katy,

Thank you for your email and I appreciate any correspondence from you (in either English or French). I can assure you that the CSF will evaluate all the needs for école Anne-Hébert for 2015-16. A new format is in place this year to allocate the available funds. What has been announced is not all what will be received for 2015-16. It is the core of the allocation and the process continues to allocate more funds for the specific needs of each communities. Madame Asselin is aware of the process. As the CSF superintendent said;

"Comme indiqué à toutes les directions lors de la Table de gestions du 9 et 10 avril, et comme mentionné par M.Morin, les écoles n'ont reçu que la dotation de base pour l'année 2015-16. Cette dotation a été fixée selon les recommandations de représentants des directions du CSF, puis présentées à toutes, dont Mme Asselin, pour consultation. Elle représente le coeur de la dotation pour l'année à venir. Toutefois des dotations annexes viendront s'ajouter dans les prochains jours. Entre autres, s'ajouteront une dotations en services spécialisés ( Education fund), une dotation supplémentaire en orthopédagogie, une dotation pour les élèves R et Q, une dotation ou financement additionnel pour le plan de réussite de l'école. Mme Asselin est informée du processus. Je suis certain qu'elle pourra vous informer davantage à ce sujet."

Education funds are limited and the new format will allow us to respond to the specific needs of each different communities. The final allocation process will take a few more weeks. The specific needs for école Anne-Hébert will be analyzed carefully to respond to them.

Regards,

Luc Morin

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**De:** "Tucker, Katy [VC]" <Katy.Tucker@vch.ca>**À:** "Luc\_morin@csf.bc.ca" <Luc\_morin@csf.bc.ca>**Envoyé:** Jeudi 23 Avril 2015 11:34:01**Objet:** ecole Anne Hebert

Cher Luc: (I hope it is OK for me to write in English, I speak French but I am not the Francophone parent, so it is easier for

me to express more complex thoughts more correctly in English). My daughter went all through Anne Hebert from Kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade (she is now in grade 10) and now my son is at Anne Hebert in 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

I am concerned about how the CSF is funding Anne Hebert. We are probably the largest elementary school in the CSF, and so you would think that things would work OK with the division of staff and resources just by the number of students, but I think that there are some special factors creating problems at our school. When my daughter was at the school, we had a real librarian (someone, in fact, who was doing a PhD in an interdisciplinary field that combined Francophone Children's Literature with Library Science, which was wonderful), but now we only have a part-time library technician. The English instruction has been very underfunded over the last couple years -- even though we have an excellent English teacher, she does not have enough funding to be full time at the school, so they seem to have to move all kinds of things around to get her to have enough classes during the week. The biggest issue is the funding for orthopedagogues and classroom assistants. We got word that these services will be cut next year and it is very worrisome.

We have a population composition in the school that is considered "inner city" school, but we do not receive additional funding for that. We have a lot of refugee children and new immigrants, some of whom have had very disrupted scolarity in their countries of origin. I know from personal experience with the families of my children's friends that some children have come to the school after never having received formal education, having received their education in refugee camps, or having attended schools where there were 80 children per class and the teachers beat the children. The entire family is stressed by the refugee/immigrant experience (I have been in this position myself) and therefore the parents are struggling to access community resources, look for jobs, and feed their children. Often the children are coming to school with inadequate food and clothing, and certainly are probably not getting lots of extra attention with homework help, etc. There are many children in the school with special needs which haven't even been officially diagnosed or recognized yet, ie they have not received "designations." My own daughter has a designation, and it took me a long time, working very closely with school personnel, to have it all documented and recognized. My fear is that with classroom cuts, the children will go even longer without the specialized care that they need, and without that care, it will take longer to document the special needs, and therefore become somewhat of a catch 22. My own son, who does not have any particular health problems or need for a designation, is a younger child (November birthday) and needed extra help to keep up in the younger grades. He has thankfully caught up and is doing very well, but I remember that his teacher last year was at pains to attend to all the children in the class who needed help, those with designations and without, even though I know him to be an excellent teacher (he taught my daughter as well), because the class composition had so many children with higher than average needs (and I know the school works hard to balance the classrooms, it is just that a lot of the kids in the school have higher than average needs.)

I know a lot of parents are talking to you and the CSF about the lamentable physical issues at the school (we now have about 8 portables). I don't even care about the "bricks and mortar" aspects at this point, I just want there to be enough staff to provide a high quality education to the children. I did not pick the Francophone school system because it was "adequate," I really felt it was something special, but I see a general degrading of conditions at the school over the years despite the continued EXCELLENT quality of the staff, it just seems that our school is not being funded properly to have ENOUGH staff. I hope you can hear these concerns and pass them along at your meeting, I really appreciate your help. I also am concerned about all the money that is being diverted to the lawsuit, I agree it is necessary, and I understand that if we are successful the legal costs will be paid back to the CSF, but in the meantime, it seems kind of like robbing Peter to pay Paul, and meanwhile, on a selfish note, my son will be almost graduated by the time we reap the reward of that lawsuit. I also think that the high school is getting a lot of resources to kind of be a "shining star" with the intent of pupil retention at the secondary school level, like all those fancy trips and such, but it seems a shame to me when the younger kids are kind of going lacking for the basics. Thanks for hearing me out.

Katy Tucker (mom at Anne Hebert)

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