



October 30, 2018

Ref: 205333

Angela Petty
Email: angkru@hotmail.com

Dear Ms. Petty:

Thank you for your email sent September 26, 2018, regarding the request to replace Ecole Jack Cook in Terrace.

I respect that there are challenges with maintaining older schools, managing enrolment growth and attracting and retaining teachers in more northern communities. The Ministry of Education is committed to working with boards of education to ensure the physical space of schools function to support a healthy learning environment and the Ministry has a number of capital funding programs to help support this.

Our capital planning intake occurs each spring and the Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (CSF) is able to submit requests related to this school in the applicable categories. I encourage you to work with the CSF to ensure they are aware of your concerns.

Please note that Ministry staff are working closely with CSF staff to lease or purchase space in various communities across British Columbia as a result of Justice Russell's judgement of September 2016. At this time, capital funding for the CSF is primarily being prioritized to address requirements in the communities identified in that judgement.

Ultimately, boards, not the Ministry, have the autonomy to decide how to prioritize and address the needs of students within their local communities. Parents are encouraged to work with their local board of education to ensure the educational needs of their children are met.

Sincerely,

Rob Fleming
Minister

pc: Bertrand Dupain, Superintendent CSF
Joel Palmer, Executive Director, Ministry of Education
Ryan Spillett, Director, Ministry of Education