

Richmond Teachers' Association

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December 9, 2024

Via E-Mail

Board of Education School District No. 38 (Richmond) 7811 Granville Avenue Richmond, BC V6Y 3E3

Dear Ken,

Re: Statement of Support for SOGI

On behalf of the Richmond Teachers' Association, I am writing to express appreciation for the December 4, 2024, statement of support for SOGI from the Board of Education Chair and Superintendent.

The Richmond Teachers' Association agrees that it is our collective responsibility as partners to ensure we are creating schools, workplaces and communities where every person feels safe and supported. We also agree that we must work together to ensure every student, employee, parent and member of our community feels valued and affirmed.

For this reason, the Richmond Teachers' Association requests the Board of Education work with partner groups to issue a joint statement of support for SOGI. This statement would be in addition to the current statement of support issued by the Board Chair and Superintendent and would be consistent with the past two years. The RTA acknowledges that the Richmond Board of Education has signed the last two statements of support for SOGI (October 3, 2022, and September 20, 2023) and further that all current members of the Board declared their support for the SOGI Policy in their 2022 election campaign and responses to the RTA candidate survey.

As partners in the school district, it is imperative that we show our mutual commitment to Policy 106 and the District Code of Conduct. By working together, we will affirm our mutual respect for diversity and our commitment to equity and inclusion.

We thank you for your continued support and advocacy.

Sincerely,

Liz Baverstock President, RTA

cc:

Christopher Usih, Superintendent of Schools Steve Wenglowski, 1st VP, RTA Frano Marsic, VP, RTA JW Cho, VP, RTA