



PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS'  
ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA

Calgary, Alberta

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Cathy Hogg, Second Vice President:

The Public School Boards' Association of Alberta believes in choice – however, it is choice within the Public Education system where all of our children learn and live the values of democracy together, reflecting our hope and shaping the future for Alberta.

We often hear people speak about the value of and need for choice within Education. The reality for our children is that choice for one child results in loss of choice for others.

Parents can have the right to choose an elite private education for their children, however they should pay for that choice themselves.

Parents also have the right to ask what is the standard for Education in this province. The standard for Education in Alberta, is not set by elite private schools, it is set, modelled and celebrated by Alberta's Public Schools.

We believe that Albertans want their children educated in a public school where every child is afforded the greatest learning opportunities within a safe and inclusive environment.

Alberta students have ambitions to be the best engineer, business person, tradesperson, teacher, doctor, nurse or whatever they aspire to be.



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Public schools are designed to deliver this expectation and we need to collectively ensure that public funds are in place to enable Alberta's children to achieve their ambitions and dreams.

All public funds.

Alberta provides wonderful learning opportunities for every one of our children, through our Public Education system; access to these programs is the social contract which is the heart of our democracy, our communities and our province.

We believe in and share Albertans commitment to this social contract.

Public funding for elite private schools, that also charge tuition to parents, is not part of the social contract.

The financial pressures on Education are such that now is the time to decide where our tax dollars should be allocated.

Should they be allocated to our Public Education system where all children are served OR to elite private schools that serve a limited and exclusive group?

The answer is simple - Splintering resources for our children, by removing dollars from our Public Education system is not acceptable.

All public funds must be allocated to our Public Education system, to provide much needed resources for our children.



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We cannot continue to fracture tax payer dollars and finite resources by continuing to fund Private Schools, because in doing so, we are fracturing and splintering our communities and our children's future.

Putting pressure on our students, educators and our communities as they compete for scarce resources, creates a Class system designed to serve systems.

We want a system that serves our children.

Creating a greater social divide in Education and breaking the social contract does not serve Alberta's children.

Alberta's children need an inclusive place where their uniqueness is an advantage, where they learn about each other on an equal basis and can celebrate the diversity that makes Alberta what it is today.

Alberta's Public Education system is that place, for we welcome every child, celebrate diversity and value individual differences.

Alberta's Public Education system offers choice within one system – choice that reflects and is responsive to the beautiful diversity of our students and the communities that we serve.

Alberta's Public Education system is a cooperative system of democracy where every child, regardless of where they live in Alberta, deserves equitable access.



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As leaders from across Alberta and within our communities, we proudly stand shoulder to shoulder, together on behalf of Alberta's children and united in our support of Alberta's Public Education system.

It is time for the Alberta Government to stand with our children and direct all public funds away from Private Schools and back to Alberta's Public Schools; back to the place where each child has many opportunities to realize their dreams.

Alberta's children are watching and counting on us.