The DPAC Executive is in support of VSB leadership in creating a solid plan forward for the restart of the 2020/21 school year in pandemic times. We believe VSB staff have done the best possible job given the limitations and confines of the rules set, and limited funds put in place, by BC's Ministry of Education.

While some additional funding has been provided for cleaning services and supplies, no funding whatsoever is being provided to ensure the education of our children and teens during a pandemic, which will further leave behind those who are most vulnerable.

We believe that students and teachers, staff, parents, families and the wider community will be safer because the VSB plan for secondary students incorporates blended learning with strong physical distancing measures. We know many parents would like to see better physical distancing measures for elementary students as well, particularly at the higher grades within the elementary schools.

We look forward to the further details that will come as the plan continues to be developed, and to working with the staff and trustees as the district plans are finalized, bringing into focus family and student concerns. We welcome input from PACs as VSB embarks upon the work of implementing these plans at the school level with their administrators.

Vancouver DPAC