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Good Evening and Welcome to Education in Burnaby February 26, 2013

The BC 2013 provincial budget was announced last week. To state that the Board was disappointed with the budget would be putting it mildly. The Board is very concerned that the budget announced last Tuesday included no increased funding for school districts.

The BC Association of School Business Officials released an estimate of the total cost pressures being faced by districts for the 2013/2014 school year which totals \$134 million

As a Board we find ourselves in an impossible position like many other School Districts that are facing significantly increased costs for the 2013/2014 year.

Without increased funding we will have no choice but to make reductions that impact services to students and result in staff reductions in all areas.

Early estimates of the budget shortfall anticipated for the Burnaby School District for next year are in the \$7 to \$10 million range.

Please know that our goal is to minimize the impact these reductions will have in our classrooms. However, budget reductions in the \$7 to \$10 million range will impact **all areas of our district operations including services to students.**

We will be working with all our partner groups over the coming weeks as we tackle the difficult budget decisions required.

While as a Board we remain committed to providing quality public education for all our learners, we believe it is important that our families and communities are aware of the huge challenges we face in the coming years as we work towards delivering a balanced budget.

Thank you for your interest in public education.

Baljinder Narang
Board Chair
Burnaby Board of Education