



April 25, 2013

Council of Commissioners  
Lester B. Pearson School Board  
1925 Brookdale Avenue  
Dorval (Québec)  
H9P 2Y7

Subject: Request for Extension of Deadline for Response to Consultation: ***“Students with Special Needs: Policy on the Organization of Services”***

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the Central Parents' Committee (CPC) and the Special Needs Advisory Committee (SNAC) of the Lester B. Pearson School Board, we would like to express our concerns regarding the current deadline for response to the Consultation: ***“Students with Special Needs: Policy on the Organization of Services”***, and respectfully request that the deadline for response be extended into the next school year.

It has been brought to our attention that due to other pressing demands this year, the majority of parents committees and governing boards have not yet had the opportunity for discussion and debate of this very important policy, and do not feel that sufficient time remains in the current school year to provide this policy with the attention that it warrants.

In addition, we feel it is important that the almost 3000 families of students with special needs throughout our territory be advised that this consultation is taking place, and that all parents, with and without special needs, be invited and encouraged to provide their input into this important policy that will impact all of our children.

And finally, we feel it is important that this policy be accompanied from the outset by supporting documentation developed by the Special Needs Advisory Committee, such as a Questions and Answers document, to clarify policy changes and proactively address areas of potential concern to parents.

As time does not permit for these consultations, discussions and work to take place this year, we feel it is important to delay the timeline for this project until the next school year, in order to ensure that this policy will be the best that it can be, with the input and support of all stakeholders, including parents, staff and administration.

Thank you in advance for your serious consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

*Laura Derry*

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*Sandra Buckingham*

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CC: Central Parents' Committee, Lester B. Pearson School Board  
Special Needs Advisory Committee, Lester B. Pearson School Board  
R. T. Mills – Director General, Lester B. Pearson School Board

C. Heffernan, S. Balleine – Assistant Directors General, Lester B. Pearson School Board