



Cowichan Valley School District

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

School District to hire more teachers

Cowichan Valley School District 79 has received \$718,000 from the Ministry of Education to hire additional teachers to start February 13th and work until the end of the school year. It's part of \$50 million the Ministry of Education allocated to teacher hiring across the province in response to a recent Supreme Court decision around class size and composition. An announcement about long-term funding for teacher hiring is expected once the Ministry and BCTF finalize the agreement.

In Cowichan, the new funding translates into approximately 17 additional teaching positions, in a combination of new positions and increasing existing part-time staff. Decisions about where to place new teachers were made collaboratively by teachers, principals and local unions. Superintendent Rod Allen said, "Everyone pulled together to identify where funding would benefit students the most."

"Though the BCTF and Ministry of Education are still working out the details, we anticipate the province will increase funding to hire more teachers in the long-term," said Candace Spilsbury, Chair of the Board of Education. "Teachers have such a complex role in today's education. We're certainly glad to be hiring, and to be collaborating with Teachers and Principals/Vice-Principals to put students first."

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