



June 24, 2021

Dear MLAs in the Louis Riel School Division,

On behalf of the Louis Riel School Division Board of Trustees, we hope you and your family are healthy and well.

Graduation lawn signs throughout our community have appeared as a tangible reminder that another school year is almost complete as young people are getting ready to embrace new adventures and experiences.

School boards, school communities and families across the country are focused on the end of the year, while also continuing to navigate the pandemic, planning for a safe return to school in the fall and preparing for an eventual post-pandemic recovery.

Our students, families and staff are exhausted! It is only Manitobans who are being told by government to simultaneously navigate a pandemic, a post-pandemic recovery and the dismantling of our public education system. The most radical change to Manitoba's public education system in over a century. The confusion and uncertainty swirling around Bill 64 and its Four-Pillar Strategy is causing incredible distress and anxiety to staff, students and families already facing the impact to their mental health and well-being caused by a worldwide pandemic.

We need to stop Bill 64 and its Four-Pillar Strategy!

We need a period of post-pandemic recovery that will allow for a supported and meaningful return to learning in school, at work and for our general lived experience.

We are eager for future collaborations that will ensure continued student and system success in public education. Manitobans deserve the best public education. We believe the priority right now should be on healing and recovery. In a post-pandemic world, we welcome the opportunity to engage in focused and strategic conversations.

Once again, we ask you to act to withdraw or defeat Bill 64 until such time that we can have a conversation with clear minds and hearts about shared objectives for our public education system's future.

We look forward to your positive response and welcome a meeting as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Louise Johnston
Chair, LRSD Board of Trustees

cc Board of Trustees
Christian Michalik, Superintendent