

Greetings Campbell River Residents. My name is Vanessa MacLean, and I am pleased to announce that I will be seeking election on October 20th 2018, for a School Trustee position in Campbell River. I was born, raised and educated here in Campbell River under School District 72. I had a wonderful educational experience within our Public School System and hope to ensure the same for this generation of children.

Although my personal experience within the Public School System was positive, and I was in an environment where I felt supported in both my personal and educational pursuits, it appears that much has changed since my graduation from Timberline in 2001. It has come to my attention over the last year, via feedback given by concerned parents, students and teachers, and even through my own research, that a definite change is needed within our current education system. Parent, teacher and student rights are being jeopardized. Political ideologies with unscientific bias are infiltrating our schools at a rapid rate, and are now being forced upon our children's learning outcomes. It is critical that our schools once again uphold Political Neutrality within the education system, and that Freedom of Speech be given precedence in a learning environment that should foster diverse views and healthy debate.

A thriving education is one that promotes critical thinking and respectful dialogue. Under no circumstance should bullying ever be tolerated in our school systems; rather, courteousness and respect for each individual should be upheld. This is especially true within an environment where students and staff will come with a variety of perspectives and backgrounds. It is my desire to ensure we are upholding and exercising Freedom of Speech within the education system. This will contribute to a great learning and educational foundation where our students can enjoy, respect, and appreciate one another's differences and views throughout these formative years. I also see the need for more parental/guardian involvement. Parents must always be honored as first educators of their children, and should be given the opportunity to voice concerns, contribute to their child's learning outcomes, as well as receive total transparency in what their children are learning in class; especially in matters pertaining to sex-education and moral perspectives.

Special Needs students and those with learning disabilities are also very close to my heart. After working with some special needs students in this Community, I have developed a great appreciation for the educational development of children with special needs and learning abilities, and I desire to bring further change to ensure a fulfilling education for this group of students. It is my hope to tailor learning to meet the needs of each child given the unique challenges they may face.

In closing, as a Campbell River resident that is very passionate about my community, I am committed to building a strong future for tomorrow's citizens, as well as representing the community's voice in Public Education. Not only do I desire to put parent's interests first, I also hope to help build an Educational Community that will produce healthy, thriving, educated, and purposeful individuals who will contribute to the greater good of society. If you share in this vision, please vote for me as School Trustee this coming Fall. Thank you and God Bless!

Yours Faithfully,

Vanessa MacLean