



BURNABY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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January 4, 2012

MEDIA RELEASE

BTA AND CUPE 379 SEEKING IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Burnaby Teachers' Association and CUPE Local 379 are jointly asking the province to improve its funding formula for public schools in Burnaby.

“Currently, the Burnaby Board of Education must supplement inadequate funding received from the Ministry of Education, in order to increase support for special needs students ,” states Richard Storch, President of the BTA.

The two organizations are holding a public town hall meeting at Schou Education Centre, 4041 Canada Way, on Thursday, January 26th from 6:30-8:30. Panelists will include speakers from CUPE National, BCTF and local officials from the Burnaby Board of Education, including Larry Hayes, Chairperson of the Board and Greg Frank, Secretary-Treasurer. Questions from the public will be welcomed and refreshments will be served.

With 1,459 fewer specialist teachers in the BC public education system than in 2001-02, reductions in custodial staff and support workers, inadequate funding for special needs, and class size/composition legislation provisions ignored by the government, BTA and CUPE feel the need to engage parents and voters on these important issues for our public education system in Burnaby and BC.

For more information about this event, please contact Richard Storch, Burnaby Teachers' Association President at the BTA Office (604) 294-8141, or by email at lp41@bctf.ca .