



Rec'd Jan 16/18  
by email from  
T. Ayling.

December 29, 2017

Ref: 197611

Frank Lento, Chair  
Board of Education  
School District No. 05 (Southeast Kootenay)  
**Email: [frank.lento@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:frank.lento@sd5.bc.ca)**

Dear Mr. Lento:

Thank you for the email of November 3, 2017, addressed to the Honourable Rob Fleming, regarding the administration and use of the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA), on behalf of the Southeast Kootenay Board of Education. As Acting Deputy Minister, I am pleased to respond and apologize for the delay.

I have received similar correspondence from a few other boards of education, as well as other indications of support from trustees for the letter sent by the British Columbia School Trustees Association dated October 2, 2017. I assure you the Ministry of Education is taking this issue seriously, and we are committed to working with all of British Columbia's education partner groups to address them.

Our approach to finding a shared solution to the concerns about the collection, use and release of FSA results must be proactive and well-informed. As a first step, the Ministry is conducting a thorough analysis of the current applicable legal framework (e.g. the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*) in relation to the release of FSA results, in addition to reviewing policy, technical and program design considerations. A comprehensive identification of the existing constraints and opportunities in this matter will enable a more meaningful and effective approach moving forward.

Although this initial step is taking some time, I assure you these concerns remain top priority. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Chelsea Chalifour, A/Executive Director, Education Analytics Branch, by phone at (250) 387-8037 or by email at [Chelsea.Chalifour@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chelsea.Chalifour@gov.bc.ca).

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Keith Godin  
A/Deputy Minister