



August 2, 2018

Ref: 203992

Frank Lento, Chair
Board of Education
School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay)
Email: frank.lento@sd5.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Lento:

Thank you for your letter dated June 25, 2018, requesting capital funding towards the project at Mount Baker Secondary School.

I appreciate there are significant challenges in maintaining an older facility and the Ministry of Education has a number of minor capital programs to support extending the life of schools buildings, such as the Annual Facilities Grant and the School Enhancement Program. The Ministry's top priorities are projects that improve safety and projects that add capacity in areas of rapid enrolment growth.

The Ministry's capital planning process operates one year ahead of the year in which the funding is received. For example, projects funded in the 2018/19 fiscal year were projects submitted in the June 2017 school district capital plan submissions. The Ministry does not normally approve stand-alone requests outside of this annual process as our funding is fully committed in advance of the fiscal year it is to be expended.

I would encourage Southeast Kootenay School District staff to connect with their Ministry of Education Planning Officer, Damien Crowell, at Damien.Crowell@gov.bc.ca, to ensure your annual capital plan submission reflects priorities for 2019/20 and beyond.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Ma
For Reg Bawa
Assistant Deputy Minister

Cc: Michael Nyikes, Director, Capital Programs Unit, Capital Management Branch.
Rachelle Ray, Regional Director, Capital Management Branch.
Damien Crowell, Planning Officer, Capital Programs Unit, Capital Management Branch.