



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 51 (BOUNDARY)

January 3, 2011

To Parents of Grade 4 and Grade 7 Students

Subject: Foundations Skills Assessment (FSA)

I am writing to you in anticipation of the ongoing controversy over the Foundation Skills Assessment. As a parent with a student in Grade 4 or Grade 7 you should be aware that your child is expected to participate in the FSA process. Any other information you may receive is inaccurate.

FSA is a set of tests in reading, writing and numeracy. FSA measures important skills in the provincial curriculum. It measures skills students have gained in several years, not just in a single year. As a parent you will receive the results.

The primary purpose of the FSA is to help schools, school planning councils, school districts and the province evaluate how foundation skills are being addressed and make plans for improvement. As a parent you have another piece of information about your son or daughter to help understand the progress your child is making in their education.

The information the FSA provides is very useful to the District and schools. I believe it is useful information for parents. There will be media coverage and in particular the Teachers' Union is launching another campaign against the FSA. While there may be flaws in the FSA process, and we certainly do not support the ranking of schools or school districts, we feel the District and all stakeholders still need to meet their obligations.

If you have any questions please contact your school principal or myself and also check our website www.sd51.bc.ca for more information. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'M. Strukoff'.

Michael Strukoff
Superintendent of Schools