

Letterhead: Alberta Education/Office of the Minister/MLA Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater

File Reference: AR85744

June 26, 2014

Dear School Board Chairs

Many of you have expressed your concerns regarding the process and expense in dealing with teachers who engage in unprofessional conduct or are not demonstrating the professional competence required. To ensure we are doing what is best for Alberta's students, we need to improve the way we handle these situations.

To this end, I need your assistance to help me better understand the issues. Therefore, I am formally requesting that you provide me with details of cases in your jurisdiction, as per my authority under Section 77(1) of the *School Act*. This section reads, "a board shall provide the Minister with any information the Minister requests in writing." Please provide me with copies of the following for the last 10 years (June 2004 to the current date):

- All complaints against individuals who hold an Alberta teaching authority filed with the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA), regardless of subsequent action taken to address the complaint
- All information pertaining to Board of Reference (BOR) matters related to cases:
 - > that went to a BOR hearing;
 - > that were withdrawn or terminated; and
 - > in which settlements or agreements were reached without going to a BOR hearing
- All matters related to situations in which a teacher or a certificated staff member voluntarily resigned, retired, was suspended or terminated from employment for unprofessional conduct or professional incompetence reasons.
 - > This includes matters in which severance packages or payouts may have been made to the certificated staff member and in which the matter was or was not reported to the Office of the Registrar, or a complaint was not lodged with the ATA.
- All information related to the suspension or termination of a certificated staff member for matters related to unprofessional conduct and/or professional incompetence.

Please forward a copy of all requested information to

Paul MacLeod
Registrar
Alberta Education
2nd Floor 44 Capital Blvd
10044 108 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 5E6

I want to assure you the information you provide is for internal use only. It will help me understand how we can continue to work together to improve our education system. I look forward to receiving this information by July 11, 2014. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Signature
Jeff Johnson
Minister
MLA, Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater

Cc: Superintendents