



June 28, 2017

Eliot River Home and School Association
 PO Box 70
 Cornwall, PE COA 1H0
 eliotriverhsa@gmail.com

Dear Eliot River Home and School Association:

This government understands that student learning and success requires a team-based approach. Open communication with Home and School Associations is a central component of this approach. It is with this in mind, that I thank you for your letter concerning class sizes and teacher allocations in the Bluefield Family of Schools.

Teacher positions have been allocated by the Public Schools Branch fairly and consistently across the province with a goal of putting teachers where the students are; improving class sizes and supporting teachers with class composition challenges; ensuring schools with similar configurations are staffed in a similar manner; and building equity for students across the province.

It was with these goals in mind that the Public Schools Branch increased staffing to the Bluefield Family of Schools by a total of 6.81 staff for the 2017-18 school year. As I am sure you are aware, Eliot River Elementary will see an increase from 28.28 to 30.22 positions in the 2017-18 year and the schools in which Eliot River feeds into will see increases as well. The chart below provides a full comparison of staffing from 2016-17 to 2017-18 in the Bluefield Family of Schools.

School	Staffing Allocation 2016-17	Staffing Allocation 2017-18
Bluefield High School	39.34	42.35
Central Queens	18.72	18.12
East Wiltshire Intermediate	39.00	40.59
Eliot River Elementary	28.28	30.22
Englewood Consolidated	15.42	14.90
Gulf Shore Consolidated	20.90	20.53
Westwood Primary	43.58	43.34
Total	205.24	212.05

The efforts made to ensure equity for students and more consistent student-teacher ratios are in line with the mandates of the Public Schools Branch and the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture to ensure Better Learning for All.

Thank you for your letter and your advocacy for the students and staff of Eliot River Elementary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wade MacLauchlan'.

Wade MacLauchlan
 Premier of Prince Edward Island

cc: Hon. Doug Currie, Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture
 Hon. J. Heath MacDonald, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism
 Ms. Susan Willis, Deputy Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture
 Parker Grimmer, Director, Public Schools Branch