



**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

Stephen McNiven, B.Ed., M.A., Superintendent of Schools  
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April 9, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Families,

The last few weeks have presented all of us with difficult challenges as we navigate the rapid, and ever-changing, situation regarding COVID-19 in our community and around the world.

In School District No. 58 (Nicola-Similkameen) we are working our hardest to ensure that your learners and community are as well supported as we can provide for and we greatly appreciate your patience, support, and understanding as we work on how services and supports will be provided to learners and communities.

To focus this important work, our District has developed four principles to guide our work. Those are:

- *Health and Safety;*
- *Supporting children of parents who are providing essential service;*
- *Supporting vulnerable children with a focus on basic needs and well-being;*
- *Providing ongoing learning opportunities for all students.*

To this end, our immediate focus is on supporting our community around ensuring basic needs are being met and organizing child supports for our Tier 1 Essential Service Workers.

We have begun the process of connecting with families and would expect that you have made connections with your child's teacher or teachers about a vision moving forward and how that teacher will continue to engage with your child.

Secondary schools will work with the grade 12 students to complete their requirements for graduation. For all grade 10 – 12 students, your school/teachers have begun making contact and beginning this work.

We are striving to make the work manageable, balanced and in the best learning interest of each individual learner.

Our staff is working collaboratively with you to ensure that the best educational decisions are made for each student regarding their transitions to the next grade level, and that core skills focused on Literacy, Numeracy and natural exploration of learning is in place for each student.

We know this is not a perfect situation, but for the time being, this is our new reality. We want to express our gratitude and appreciation for the work you are doing and the efforts you continue to put in towards your child's success.

We recognize the challenges our families and community are facing; we know as a District and community that we will get through this together.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jameel Aziz  
Assistant Superintendent

*Success for ALL Learners ~ Today and Tomorrow*