



**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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May 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers:

As we move through our first full week of May, please know that we are all thinking about you and your children. We are wondering how you are managing, how the health and safety of your family and friends are, and how you are navigating the challenges that this pandemic has presented?

Our teachers, counsellors, Educational Assistants, First Nations Support Workers, Strong Start Facilitators, clerical team, Principals, Maintenance, and Technology staff have all been working very hard to ensure that we can give you and your children whatever resources you need to help with their learning and engagement and to overcome any challenges they may be facing. The opportunity to regularly connect with teachers and other staff is and will continue to be made available to you.

As you may already know, earlier today Premier Horgan provided us with details around the B.C. Restart Plan. This plan outlines the gradual restart of both the economy and the social aspects of our day to day lives. This plan is not an immediate return to normal, but instead is a description of a gradual move towards a "new normal". Schools are an important part of the plan and we want you to know that we very much look forward to moving forward with expanding in person schooling for our students; however, we also want to assure you that we will only do this with Health & Safety being our top priority.

Preparing for the expansion of face to face learning will be guided by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and it will take some time. During the month of May, we will continue to reach out with to you with updates and schools will continue supporting your children. Please connect to our website for up to date District and Ministry of Education information, and reach out to your school, your teachers and other staff to assist in helping you in your efforts to keep your children feeling supported, purposeful and safe. And most importantly, please keep following the advice and guidance of Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, as she shares her perspective that is focused on helping us all to stay well.

Together we will get through this challenging and unprecedented time and we hope you know that we are here for you. Stay safe!

Our very best to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. McNiven'.

Stephen McNiven
Superintendent of Schools

Success for ALL Learners ~ Today and Tomorrow