



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

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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March 10, 2022

Good afternoon SD58 Families,

We are pleased to inform you that we are making positive progress in site readiness and restoration of damaged schools from the November 15, 2021, event.

In Princeton, our schools are fully operational and have been since January. We face the ongoing challenge of the Boil Water Order and thus the provision of bottled water for students and food preparation. We are hopeful that an answer to solve this is on the horizon and know that the Town of Princeton and their partners are working dedicatedly to address this issue.

On the Merritt side of the District, we are happy to share that Diamond Vale Elementary and Merritt Secondary School are on track to be able to return to their school sites after Spring Break. We are thankful to all of you, Onside Restoration, the Ministry of Education, NVIT, Crossroads Community Church, the Evangelical Free Church, and countless others in helping us bridge this period to allow for students to be supported and educated while repairs occur.

Merritt Central Elementary will be housed in the previous Coquihalla Middle School together as a school community from April to the end of June while restoration of their building and grounds continues.

We are hopeful that these changes will allow our schools and student groups to flourish in a more familiar way and are looking forward to engaging in some of our more typical school activities as the 2021/2022 school year draws to a close.

It is important to be reminded that as we return to schools, many families are continuing to face the very real and overwhelming challenges associated with the flood. Please remember to keep them in mind and reach out to us if you need support.

We want to thank all of you for your efforts, patience, perseverance, and strength as we have all worked to navigate a situation that we hope no one ever finds themselves in again.

Our very best to all of you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jameel Aziz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jameel Aziz
Assistant Superintendent