



# SCHOOL DISTRICT No.69 (QUALICUM)

**June 24, 2020**

## **A Year End Message to Parents From Keven Elder, Superintendent of Schools**

As we move toward the summer break I can't say strongly enough how much we have appreciated working with you as parents in support of your children and young adults during this truly remarkable time. We were on a real roll heading into spring break as we prepared for another great spring of learning and transitions in School District 69, then the world as we know it changed. We appreciate the true partnerships that have continued with parents during this time. And on that note we offer a special thanks with best wishes to parents of our graduates who have had such an unusual final few months but we believe are ready to move on to the world beyond high school.

We have learned so much about how to adapt, respond and persevere, and you as parents have played a key role. Our teachers, support staff and administrators have navigated these waters with you in creating the best possible learning experiences and supports for students, and for that we thank you. We know that we didn't get it all right all of the time, but it was not for lack of trying. And now we have a much better sense of how we should, with you, approach the 2020/21 school year.

We will know by mid-August (likely the 20<sup>th</sup>) what our schools will look like in September. As we await that news we know that it will be one of the following 5 scenarios.

- Stage 1: All K-12 students in session 100% or 5 days per week.
- Stage 2: K-7 students in session 100% or 5 days per week; grades 8-12 students at 40%
- Stage 3 (as now): K-5 students at 50%; grades 6-12 at 20%
- Stage 4: All K-12 students limited to 20% per week
- Stage 5: No students in attendance at school

In stages 2 through 4 we expect to be offering children of essential service workers, as well as children with vulnerabilities or unique needs, a chance to attend school full time.

In stages 2 through 5, with some or all students at home, we will work with teachers to create the kinds of hybrid learning environments that have become the norm over the past few weeks. There will be a combination of on-site and at-home learning with teachers working with you as parents to find the balance that works for your child. We will also be sure to retain the high level of safe and healthy practices that we have established this spring, adjusted for the level of COVID concern, all under the direction of the provincial and local health authorities. Thanks as well to the many of you who responded to our parent survey and gave us insights and ideas for how best to approach the new year.

For now, please remember how grateful we are to you for your patience and support, and how sincere we are in our wishes for you and your family to have a safe, healthy and enjoyable couple of months until we re-connect in late August.

With sincere best wishes,

Keven Elder for the District Senior Leadership Team