



Dear Educators, School and District Staff, and Trustees:

As we head into the holiday season, I want to take a moment to thank you and acknowledge the dedication and hard work you put in, every day. You truly are what makes the education system in B.C. world class. It has been a privilege to meet with and hear from many of you over the past year, and I look forward to continuing to engage over the coming months. As a parent, a former school trustee, and the Minister of Education and Child Care, I see first-hand the incredible work being done for students, families, and communities province wide. Thank you!

I also want to share my sincere appreciation for your commitment to creating welcoming learning environments for all children. Throughout my work, I see your leadership in fostering safe and inclusive classrooms and I know it is because everything we do is rooted in one goal: helping children thrive.

This year has been busy! Whether it was getting up to date guidance around Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and CPR training, mandatory early literacy screening, or simply the day-to-day management of a complex classroom, I am constantly impressed by your professionalism and the creativity you bring to your roles.

Schools are trusted community hubs that are often called upon to provide more than just reading, writing, and arithmetic. I am incredibly proud of schools and districts delivering school food programs to students and families who need it most. We know kids cannot learn on an empty stomach, and stigma-free access to nutritional meals and snacks has made a significant difference for students throughout the province.

I am hopeful we can continue to work together to expand the services families can rely on, especially early learning. Recently, we have made it easier for boards of education to provide early learning and child care on school grounds. If we get this right, we will be able to support kids earlier, ease the transition for families entering kindergarten, and provide much needed access to before- and after-school care.

Because of the time, professionalism, and care that each of you bring to your work, our education system continues to deliver meaningful results for students, families, and communities. On behalf of the Ministry of Education and Child Care and the Government of B.C., I wish you a well-deserved and restful holiday season filled with joy, family, and friends.

With gratitude,

Lisa Beare  
Minister