

June 25, 2020

Dear Abbotsford School District families,

As the 2019-20 school year comes to a close, I would like to provide a general overview for the months ahead in what has been a truly unforgettable year. COVID-19 has caused many challenges for everyone -- parents, students, and staff alike. Simultaneously, it has created opportunities for collaboration and innovation at a time when it was most needed. Over the last few months our staff has had to adapt to new ways of learning and working, all the while adhering to the strict requirements outlined by the Provincial Health Officer and WorkSafe BC.

As we look ahead to the fall, we acknowledge the fundamental challenge of building a school system that can flexibly respond to the changing pandemic conditions. It is for this reason that we have drafted a Future Learning Plan (the Halq'eméylem term for this is Toti:Itcha) for the District.

Toti:Itcha – Future Learning Plan

Toti:Itcha is designed to guide us through the uncertainty of the coming months, and will serve as a framework for September 2020 and beyond. This document addresses the instructional, structural and health and safety issues that have manifested in our buildings since the onset of the pandemic, and is intended to establish a path to fulfill our vision of providing a world-class, innovative, and individualized educational experience for every student.

Your voice matters and we want to hear from you. As we work to finalize the document over the summer, we would like your feedback. Submissions will be collected until July 3, 2020.

[Read: Toti:Itcha – Future Learning Plan](#)

[Survey: Provide your feedback](#)

Preparing for Next Year

The safety and well-being of our staff and students continues to be paramount. Based on the May 15th announcement from the Ministry of Education, we are still optimistically planning for a regular return to school on September 8, 2020. This is, of course, dependent on the state of the global pandemic and its impact here in British Columbia.

We recognize how exceedingly difficult the last few months have been for families, and as we prepare for next year, we understand that there may be more obstacles ahead as we expand in-class learning. Rest assured that we will continue to manage these challenges together, always with a primary focus on the safety and well-being of our entire school community.

As superintendent of this amazing district, I cannot express enough gratitude for the continued support and tireless efforts of all students, families and staff over the past three months. I am forever thankful to the very committed people who work in our district, who have helped us to paint a picture of a brighter tomorrow.

Please take good care of yourselves and your loved ones over the next few months. Rest, relax and recharge. We look forward to welcoming you and your child back in September.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Godden', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Kevin Godden
Superintendent of Schools