

March 20, 2020

Dear employees,

The board of trustees extends its sincere thanks to each and every one of you for your patience in the last few weeks and in the coming weeks. We are so grateful for the care and compassion you have shown to your students and colleagues in the face of the challenges caused by COVID-19. Schools make a difference every day in a child's life and this pandemic just proves how dedication in the classroom can and does extend beyond as you support students who soon will be learning from home.

The division is a community, as shown by the efforts of all staff pitching in to keep the division functioning and safe. As trustees, we are so appreciative of the way everyone has responded to the shifting circumstances caused by COVID-19. We realize it is no small undertaking to prepare students to continue with school work away from the direct guidance of their teachers and EAs. The board also recognizes the commitment of all our staff, no matter what your job in the division, that keeps the division functioning as normally as possible.

The board and senior administration are working together to support you and to ensure the information coming to you and our community is as factual as possible. We also are avoiding quick and impulsive decisions; instead we are looking at logical responses to help our students and staff through the current situation.

Please remember to focus on your own wellbeing and that of your family and friends. Keep safe, social distance yourself and your family and together as a community we will pull through.

Sincerely,



Colleen Carswell
Chairman, Board of Trustees