



September 1, 2022

Dear Students and School Families and colleagues:

The new school year starts today and there is considerable excitement at Regina Public Schools. I am particularly eager for the school year to begin as I have been appointed to be the new Director of Education/CEO. Some of you may know that I'm no stranger to the school division having worked with students and families and alongside many colleagues for 32 years as a teacher, department head, vice-principal, principal, superintendent and, most recently, deputy director.

On Monday we welcomed back our school-based staff and today, we hope to see more 25,000 students in our 44 elementary schools, nine high schools, and our eSchool and adult campus. The previous two school years were filled with uncertainty and disruption both for students and for staff. The demonstrated resiliency, dedication and determination of our staff and the students with whom they work has inspired me and challenged our entire team to be our best.

While it is possible that we may see some disruption in the 2022-2023 school year, my colleagues and I are confident that your school division has the experience and the tools to minimize interruptions for students and staff and to maximize learning and working opportunities. This year we are taking a layered approach with respect to school safety. More details about that will be shared through schools. As before, we will continue to take direction from the Ministry of Education and Regina Public Health on all matters of health and wellness.

I will personally ensure that your school division will continue to communicate with families and with employees to the best of our ability. We will also listen attentively to your concerns and your observations about how we can best serve public education in Regina.

This year, our Board of Education's key priorities include: our relationships with Indigenous people; diversity and inclusion; mental health and well-being; and achievement for all students. We are looking forward to working on all these priorities.

Regina Public Schools is governed by the Regina Board of Education, which consists of seven elected trustees, as well as the Director of Education and Deputy Director/CFO. You may be aware that there is a trustee vacancy in Subdivision #2. On October 25, there will be a Subdivision by-election to fill that trustee position on our Board of Education. I encourage you to vote, and if you are so inclined, to consider running for the positions. Full details are at <https://www.regina.ca/elections/> and will continue to be updated.

In the coming weeks and months, both school division administration and your schools will be sharing with you more details about what to expect from your public education system for this coming year. We hope that, by working together, this can be a year that will be remembered for growth, excellence, and success for everyone engaged in the practice of learning.

Sincerely,

Darren Boldt
Director of Education