

Board of Education School District No. 22 (Vernon)

1401 - 15th Street, Vernon, BC V1T 8S8

Dear Students and Families,

Way' and welcome to a new school year here in School District 22! I hope the summer was relaxing and provided you with an opportunity to spend time with family and friends. September always brings a renewed sense of purpose, energy, and optimism. This year promises to be an exceptional one!

As schools are opening their doors to welcome students to the first day of the 2024-2025 school year, not only is this a fresh start for students, but it is also a new beginning for a number of staff members, including myself. As Superintendent of Schools, I excitedly join you on the path towards educational excellence! This new beginning provides opportunities to build positive relationships – ones that support the engagement of students in authentic and relevant learning in schools that are welcoming, safe, and inclusive of the diverse student population we serve. This cannot be accomplished without the support of families as key partners in learning. Thank you for joining us in our collective learning journey!

To help each student succeed, we are focusing on knowing each learner as an individual to ensure we are supporting the whole child on their learning journey. This means we are looking closely at student well-being and also at how children are achieving in literacy and numeracy as part of *British Columbia's Core Competencies*. Core Competencies determine where learners are going and are the intellectual, personal, and social/emotional proficiencies that all students need in order to engage in deep, lifelong learning. Along with literacy and numeracy foundations, the Core Competencies are central to British Columbia's K-12 curriculum and assessment plan for learners as they become educated citizens. This curriculum is based on a "Know-Do-Understand" approach. For specific information related to the BC Curriculum visit *Curriculum J Building Student Success - B.C. Curriculum (gov.bc.ca)*

This school year, our District will also continue to align our work with the district's vision which is to **to become a community where all are respected, and each person is encouraged to develop their potential**. This vision is embedded within the elected Board's SD22 Strategic Plan, which is the guiding document supporting learners in reaching their full potential. It is also intended to complement the **School Learning Plans** that each school focusses on for continual improvement (please see your school's website for more information). To view the School District 22 Strategic Plan, please visit the following link <u>SD22 Strategic Plan</u>.

Again, welcome to the 2024-2025 school year!

Sincerely,

Karla Mitchell

Superintendent & Chief Executive Officer