



June 28, 2021

Dear Families, Students and Staff:

With the official end of the 2020-21 school year upon us, I'm writing on behalf of the Burnaby Board of Education to thank you for each and everything you have done to make a difference in this difficult school year.

Students, these past months have had many obstacles and challenges, complete with ending the year on a record-breaking heat wave. Whether you were learning from home or in the school building, it goes without saying that this was a hard year. Your contributions kept classes as a place for connection, whether virtual or in-person with learning groups. Despite the challenges, we have been privileged to celebrate your many incredible accomplishments, including those of the Class of 2021. We especially appreciate the impact of COVID-19 on this year's graduates, who were the first class to have their entire school year and the normal festivities that go along with it stolen by the pandemic. We congratulate you on all you have achieved. To the Class of 2021 and all students, your grit, resiliency and adaptability have demonstrated that our collective future is in good hands.

Parents have had additional strains placed on them throughout the pandemic. With all you are balancing, we are truly grateful for your patience, flexibility, support and contributions. Trustees recognize that none of this has been easy.

And last but not least, to all staff in the district – whether you have a school or district-based position –

