



December 15, 2023

Dear parents and caregivers:

As we near the end of 2023 and the beginning of the winter break throughout BC I wish each and every one of you a wonderful holiday season, and quality time with your families.

As a parent myself, I know how important an excellent education is for all of our children, as it provides a strong foundation for them in life. BC's K-12 education system continues to be world-leading, with BC students continuing to perform among the best in the world in math, science and reading. While our students' intellectual development is incredibly important, we know that students do their best when they can learn in safe, caring, and inclusive schools. A sense of belonging allows students to thrive and reach their full potential. I know we all want our children to be part of a school where they are welcomed, included, and respected with student success and well-being at the centre.

Since the beginning of the school year, we have reached a number of milestones. This includes launching the Indigenous-focused Graduation Requirement ensuring that students develop a deeper understanding of the perspectives, experiences, and cultures of Indigenous people before they graduate from high school. I am also proud that we have been able to launch the new Feeding Futures program that is dedicated to creating and expanding school food programs throughout BC. All our students can and should start the day fed and ready to learn.

I also know that many schools are expanding quickly with higher student enrollment, especially with 350,000 new people making BC their home in the last 2.5 years. Our government remains committed to expanding and modernizing BC's K-12 education system and will continue to make record investments in new and expanded schools and child care on school grounds to make life easier for families. This also means we're continuing to work on hiring more teachers and staff to ensure students have the support they need to continue to provide a world-class education for BC students. As a mother with children in the public school system, I recognize the remarkable effort from parents and caregivers who remain dedicated every day to make their kids' lives better so they can achieve success, and who do so much to make our schools better not just for their own kids, but for all our young people.

From the bottom of my heart, I appreciate your support and hard work. I hope you all will get a much deserved restorative break with those nearest to you. I look forward to a wonderful 2024 with you all.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachna Singh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Rachna Singh
Minister