



December 16, 2022

Dear Educators, School Staff, K-12 School Sector Leaders, and Trustees:

As we reach the end of 2022 and the start of the winter break throughout B.C., I want to wish you all a happy holiday season and introduce myself in my new role as B.C.'s Minister of Education and Child Care - a position I am honoured to hold.

I would like to begin by expressing my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your hard work and dedication to your school community. As a parent myself, I know the important role each of you play in making sure our schools are safe, inclusive, and engaging places where students can learn and grow. I know the depth of care each of you put into providing quality education for all our students, helping them to achieve their goals and do well in the world. As I step into this new role, I am excited to connect with school districts, independent schools, and school communities and hear how we can continue to support your work throughout B.C. in ways that allow students to thrive.

The past 12 months have brought us back together in many ways, but I know there have also been many new challenges.

This year's respiratory illness season has been felt in our schools. I want to thank the parents, teachers, support staff, and administrators who have followed the advice of Public Health to get vaccinated and if they were able to, stayed home when sick. I recognize that balancing all the needs of schools, including staff and students during this time takes a great deal of effort and coordination. I want to thank you for continuing to put the best interest of students at the heart of what you do every day.

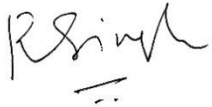
Our government remains committed to improving and modernizing B.C.'s K-12 education system, with a continued focus of putting students at the centre of everything we do, and so that all B.C. support staff, educators and administrators feel supported in the important roles you play in the lives of students throughout our province. I look forward to continuing this work in the new year and am excited to visit your school communities in the weeks and months ahead to see firsthand how B.C.'s schools are supporting our students as they learn and grow.

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As the holidays approach and the 2022 calendar year comes to a close, please take time for yourself and those you love. My wish for you all is a much deserved restful and restorative break. I hope you are able to celebrate in ways that are meaningful to you.

With gratitude,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Singh', with a small horizontal line underneath the 'h'.

Rachna Singh
Minister