

March 1, 2021

To: BRSD families

From: Dr. Rita Marler, Superintendent of Schools

Re: Welcome to March!

Hello everyone.

Here we are in March – the month in which Spring officially arrives!

There is something very hopeful about the sunnier days, warmer temperatures and green grass we envision when we think of Spring – it's a great thing to look forward to!

This is also the season we begin looking ahead to next school year. Kindergarten registration is underway throughout BRSD and many schools are, or will be soon, conducting surveys to get important feedback from families regarding next year's programming. Your voice matters – thank you for taking the time to provide your input.

Although an overview of the provincial budget for 2021-2022 was announced last Thursday, we won't know the details of our school division's specific allocation until the end of March. That will, of course, influence our planning for next year, but we remain hopeful that funding will meet student needs.

We have now completed the first month of our second semester / third quarter of this school year. Learning is in full swing in every classroom. It is very gratifying to see all the posts, messages and newsletters being shared by schools, as they highlight their programs and celebrate the successes students experience every day. There are so many interesting, innovative and important learning activities taking place!

It is also gratifying to be able to report that BRSD schools have remained "COVID free" since in-person learning resumed on January 11. Thank you to everyone who has been diligent in taking care of themselves and each other. It is very beneficial and much more straightforward to focus on learning when case numbers in our schools are low.

We are excited to have more flexibility available to us in school sport and performance activities again. As things continue to evolve, schools will continue to update their specific plans and share information with families directly.

Enjoy these warmer days and the Spring Break / Easter weekend scheduled from March 29 to April 5 (classes resume Tuesday, April 6). Talk to you again soon!

*Rita Marler*