

June 22, 2021



Border Land School Division Students, Staff and Community

As I compose this letter, I reflect on the fact that it is nearing the end of June and although at times it has felt as though time has stood still this year, it has flown by. Throughout the past 15 months of this pandemic, we have needed to work together to navigate a new way to educate and support our children. This letter is written as a thank you!

Thank you to our families! It has been 15 months of firsts, frustrations, and constant changes for you. We recognize that there were often questions that needed answers sorted and sometimes when it felt like things finally settled, there were more changes. We thank you for your continuing support and for entrusting your children to our care.

Thank you to our students! You worked so hard the past 15 months, not only on your schoolwork but to understand and follow the public health directions provided. We acknowledge that for many of you there were losses felt this year. Whether that was sports, the arts, or different clubs at your school, we know things were not the same and we are sorry for that. You persevered and have found success in an unprecedented time. Be proud of your perseverance. Thank you for showing up each day and doing the best you could.

Thank you to the BLSA staff! It is difficult to work in an ever-changing environment. You met each change head on and planned and replanned to support the students in your care, from teaching partial classes to full classes in a distanced way in a different room, to organizing cohorts, sanitizing busses, cleaning schools, placing new markings on floors to sorting positive COVID-19 case impacts. You did so with grace and an unwavering support for our students. Thank you for being professional and caring in all you do.

We now find ourselves in June, tired and ready for summer, but also asking ourselves the question of what will next year bring? We are hoping that school will be closer to normal next year, but at this point we do not have specific information on Manitoba Public Health directions for our fall opening. Throughout the summer we will gather information and plan accordingly. We are hopeful that by mid-August Manitoba Education will have provided information for planning. When that information is clear, your local school will share with you what September 2021 start-up will be in your school.

I wish you all a restful and safe summer break with family and friends, doing the things that bring you joy and relaxation. Thank you for being part of the Border Land team this year. I am looking forward to our return in September.

Yours truly,

Krista Curry
Superintendent
Border Land School Division