

September 6, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am very pleased to welcome back our returning students and families and would like to extend a special welcome to those who are new to the Richmond School District. September is an exciting time for those of us involved in public education as it provides us the opportunity to reconnect with students, build new relationships and embark upon the many challenges that a new school year brings.

At the same time, I know that the beginning of the school year can be a challenging time for some children and parents. As a district, we are committed to doing everything we can to ensure that your child feels welcome and supported as they make the transition into a new grade or school. Richmond teachers, support staff, administrators and district staff are ready and willing to work alongside you to ensure that your child has the best possible start to the school year.

As we move through the school year, the Board of Education will be working with staff and stakeholders to develop a new strategic plan that aligns with our vision statement: *"The Richmond School District is the Best Place to Learn and Lead."* There will be numerous opportunities for you to participate in the development of the plan and I encourage you to share what you think is important. The Board of Education places enormous value on the voices of its stakeholders and looks forward to hearing from you as we plan for the future.

We will also continue to see changes being made to many of our facilities this year. The Board of Education approved a new Long Range Facilities Plan in June, 2019 and is in the process of determining which of the recommendations may be implemented. Several of our schools are undergoing seismic mitigation work and as construction progresses, disruption will sometimes ensue. I recognize that this may be challenging, however, it will ultimately ensure that our students and staff have a safe place to come to work and learn each day.

Within Richmond we have a collaborative culture that is strengthened by the contributions of a rich and diverse community. We focus on the needs of our learners and believe that equitable and inclusive learning environments are essential in supporting the growth and achievement of our learners. This year will bring many opportunities for our students and staff to learn and lead and I hope these experiences will be meaningful for everyone involved.

In closing, I am honored to serve as your superintendent of schools, I look forward to the year ahead and I wish all of you a wonderful school year.

Sincerely,

Scott Robinson
Superintendent of Schools