## Peter Dubinsky Superintendent of Schools



September 2, 2025

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to another school year! I hope your summer was filled with fun and good times with family and friends. We have had a very productive summer, with several projects and programs taking place. District staff have been working tirelessly to ensure that all our facilities are ready for students today. While most of the summer projects have been completed, some work is still ongoing, and we appreciate your patience and understanding.

As I say each year at this time, September brings anticipation, excitement, and even a bit of fear and anxiety. Returning to school is always filled with mixed emotions, and it takes some time to get back into the daily routines. Maintaining good sleep habits, adopting healthy nutrition practices, and limiting screen time are effective ways to support a positive start to the year. We understand that we cannot predict the future, but we can do our best to plan and prepare for the different scenarios that might emerge throughout the year. Ensuring that supports and resources are in place, seeking to understand first, asking for help when needed, and showing care and compassion for one another will allow us to navigate any uncertainties and the ups and downs of the next ten months. The learning journey is both fun and exciting, yet sometimes challenging, so effective communication and collaboration are crucial.

I am pleased to inform you that student self-reporting data from last spring indicate that overall student satisfaction with school is highly encouraging. They indicated that there is a strong sense of belonging at school, characterized by positive adult connections with a supportive school culture. Students feel that school is a welcoming and safe place to be every day, where staff care and believe that students can be successful. We are very pleased with these results, but we are aware that there are still areas for improvement.

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Academically, we are seeing improvements in reading, writing, and numeracy competency; however, we need to place more emphasis on the number of students who are still emerging and developing in these areas and increase their proficiency. Staff will continue to focus on early literacy learning and intervention as well as literacy development throughout the grades. We will also be examining our numeracy programs this year to ensure we are increasing competency in this area.

Collaborating with your child's teacher(s) is critical to ensuring growth and development in all aspects of student learning. I encourage you to communicate with our dedicated and fantastic staff to help support learning at home and at school.

I am excited for the year ahead and wish you all good health and happiness. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need anything.

Sincerely,

E peter.dubinsky@sd10.bc.ca

Box 340, Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0

SD10.BC.CA