

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As I watched the newscast from BCTF President Jim Iker last night I heard the words “the strike and lockout are now over.” These words were music to my ears and I am sure the message was most welcome to you as well.

On Monday we will open our arms to the community and welcome over 70,000 Surrey students back to school. We know that our teachers, support staff and administrators will begin the process of starting the year with the same professionalism, care, and support that our students have always received in Surrey. We are proud of the work of our staff and we know your children will be well cared for. We have missed them.

We also realize that this has been a long journey. I have heard many people in the public talk about the job action starting in June and I remind them that it actually started on April 23rd. There have been many sacrifices on many fronts. We thank our parents and community for your patience and support through this time.

When I travelled around the district over the past months, it was with a heavy heart that I saw empty playgrounds, halls and classrooms. We have truly missed our children who are the heart and soul of any school. It will be fantastic to once again hear and see the sounds of laughter, play, and time with peers.

Our district website has all the information that parents will need about [start times](#) in your school. Monday will be a shortened day consistent with our usual routines that we follow on other September opening days. Once again, thank you very much for your understanding and patience, there are many more details to come around instructional time and balancing the school year but most importantly, we look forward to seeing our students on Monday.

Sincerely,



Jordan Tinney
Superintendent of Schools/CEO