

## Bluewater District School Board

351 1st Avenue North – PO Box 190 Chesley ON N0G 1L0 Telephone: (519) 363-2014 Fax: (519) 370-2909 www.bwdsb.on.ca

June 8, 2020

## Dear Class of 2020 Graduate:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of Bluewater District School Board, we would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations as you prepare to graduate and pursue your post-secondary career path.

We know that the challenges and uncertainty caused by COVID-19 have disrupted many of the school activities, events, and celebrations that we normally look forward to at this time of year. This includes secondary commencement, which is an extremely important and highly anticipated milestone for many of our students and families.

Please know that we are committed to ensuring that you can still participate in a meaningful and memorable commencement ceremony to celebrate the culmination of your elementary and secondary school years.

To make sure our secondary graduates are fully honoured as they well deserve, all formal ceremonies are being postponed until the fall of 2020, or it is determined safe to do so. While the timing of these events typically varies with some schools holding June ceremonies and others fall ceremonies, we hope that targeting the fall for all events provides some comfort in knowing that none of our graduates will go unnoticed. Further details will be shared as arrangements are made.

Despite the impact on the timing of some of these events, we hope you see a glimmer of positivity in this situation by recognizing how unique you are in sharing a historical global experience with other students. Today's inconvenience will make for an interesting story for you to tell years down the road.

We are so proud of you and the resilience you have shown during these unprecedented times. Again, please accept our congratulations on all you have accomplished, and best of luck as you take that next significant step forward in becoming a Bluewater District School Board graduate.

Sincerely,

Jan Johnstone

Chair

Alana Murray

Director of Education

c.c. Secondary School Principals

Christone

Trustees