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July 5, 2023

Honourable Rajan Sawhney
Minister of Advanced Education
107 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
Via e-mail: ae.minister@gov.ab.ca

Dear Minister Sawhney,

Congratulations on your re-election and your appointment as Minister of Advanced Education. We are fortunate in Alberta, and in Edmonton in particular, to have so many great post-secondary options for our students to attend. We look forward to those opportunities being maintained and even perhaps increasing under your leadership.

At Edmonton Public Schools, our [Career Pathways](#) programming starts right from Kindergarten and continues through Grade 12 to help students explore their interests, strengths and possibilities in preparation for life after high school. Post-secondary education is the path that many of our students take to reach their goals. Trying out options through apprenticeships, dual credit programs and learning labs co-hosted with our post-secondary partners gives students experiential learning opportunities inside and outside of the classroom. We believe there is great opportunity to expand these partnerships and opportunities for the benefit of students, our post-secondary partners and employers.

We are also keenly interested in the training programs offered by teachers and educational assistants. Currently, there is a province-wide shortage of educational assistants. Through collaboration between the government and Division staff, we recently completed a pilot project with two other school divisions to train more educational assistants. We see potential for further collaboration that can help position Alberta students for success after high school.

We would be glad to discuss these topics further with you, or meet about other areas of interest to you. Please contact Catherine Angeles at 780-429-8443 or catherine.angeles@epsb.ca to arrange a time. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,



Trisha Estabrooks
Board Chair