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July 5, 2023

Honourable Adriana LaGrange
Minister of Health
423 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
Via e-mail: health.minister@gov.ab.ca

Dear Minister LaGrange,

Congratulations on your re-election and your appointment as Minister of Health. It is so heartening to have someone with your background in this position, as you understand what a tremendous benefit greater collaboration between Health and Education would be for students and families.

We value the strong partnership we have with Alberta Health Services. The supports that AHS provides through specialized professionals on our school-linked teams, navigating illness outbreaks, and resource materials are all vital in helping students be successful on their education journey. We also appreciate the collegial support of AHS staff at our hospital school campuses.

An area for growth that we see is the communication between ministries, particularly between Education, Health, and Mental Health and Addiction. Your leadership could be instrumental in bringing about greater collaboration between these areas. Co-ordination across systems would provide a more streamlined system of access and alleviate patchwork services that hinder effective treatment and student access to supports.

Working together, we could create a layered system of education, prevention, outreach, counselling and crisis care to ensure seamless transitions and prevent anyone from falling through a gap in care. This approach would improve both education and health care in Alberta.

We would be happy to meet early in the fall and discuss this approach further. 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 filled with family and friends.

Sincerely,



Trisha Estabrooks
Board Chair