speaking notes

The Year Ahead

David Stevenson
Chief Superintendent
of Schools

Council of School Councils

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I am proud to lead the Calgary Board of Education, and through my work, serve the people of Calgary, the owners of public education.

I have spent over 30 years as an employee of the CBE and as a positive voice for public education.

Like you, I am also a CBE parent. Our family has been well served by our system and by public education through exceptional teachers, principals and staff.

One of the key strengths of our system is the people. We have strong teachers and leaders. They aren't perfect, but they are exceptional people who care deeply about our students. And we have parents like you who care deeply and who act on behalf of your own children and on behalf of all children.

I have strong beliefs about inclusion that guide my work. It is important to recognize what each student can do, and to strive forward with them toward what they might also be able to do to reach their highest potential.

That is why we have created a strong learning strategy in the CBE. It is a strategy we will continue. It focuses on personalizing learning. That does not mean individualizing for each student. Our strategy is about getting to know each student as a learner and designing learning that invites and responds to each student's needs and interests.

Parents - each of you - has an important role to play in public education. I know from my own experience as a parent how important it is to my daughter when I am involved in her learning both at home and at her school.

My experience as an educator supports current research which shows

learning | as unique | as every student

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that students are more successful when students, parents and schools work closely together in productive and positive ways again, in support of learning.

I am happy to be here tonight as I value opportunities like this to engage with our parents. We know that the CBE, and each of our students, will be better and stronger if we all work together to make our system even better.