## PINE RIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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To Students and the Pine Ridge Community,

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all farewell as I am heading to a new school for the 2020-2021 academic school year. I have been fortunate to call Pine Ridge my home away from home for five and a half great years. My time at the school has been filled with memories that I will carry forward for a very long time.

I would like to thank the great staff at the school for all of the hard work that they do on a daily (and nightly) basis. Our Custodians, Educational Assistants, Secretaries, IT Specialist, Lunchroom Supervisors, Nurses, Teachers, Interveners and my fellow admin teams are among some of the finest I have ever had the pleasure to work alongside of.

For those that are graduating during these uncertain times.....you have the unique opportunity to forge a path forward knowing that you have looked uncharted and unimaginable circumstances straight on and have risen to the occasion. The experience of this pandemic will undoubtedly set you up for success in the future, no matter how undefined it may feel. I know that each of you will go on to do great things, both big and small.

The worries of the pandemic itself have been compunded by social injustices that have permeated the minds of individuals and dictated the directions of many institutions for far too long. Now is the time for you to use your shared power to listen carefully, speak meaningfully and debate respectfully. Through this approach to courageous conversations you will be able to collectively plan for a better and more united school, community and world. I have always spoken highly of the rich and diverse culture at the Ridge and while there is no doubt some heavy lifting to be done, I have full confidence that you are poised to do your part in the time you have left in the school and beyond.

Finally, a thank you to students, staff and your families for the privilege of being able to share in a piece of your life's journey. I wish you all of the best and hope that we will connect again in the future.

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Mr. Barrowclough	

Respectfully,

