



Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82

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News Release
May 10, 2019

SKEENA MIDDLE SCHOOL INCIDENTS - MAY 7 & 10, 2019

Please be informed of two related incidents that occurred at Skeena Middle School on Tuesday, May 7 and May 10, 2019.

School officials were alerted on May 7 to a message of concern written on a mirror located in a washroom at Skeena Middle School. School administration and the school district immediately contacted the RCMP and Safer Schools Together to ensure all protocols and processes were followed. An investigation was initiated by the RCMP in consultation with Safer Schools Together (our provincial student safety experts) who determined this was a low-level risk event. RCMP presence was put in place at the Skeena Middle School on May 8, 9 and 10 as an added precaution.

In the early hours of May 10, school district officials were informed of an additional message via a social media app that required attention. This was reported to the RCMP who incorporated this information into their ongoing investigation and was included in continued risk planning made by the RCMP and Safer Schools Together. This additional information was determined to also be a low-level risk incident for students and staff. RCMP presence continues to be in place at Skeena Middle School today.

School staff were informed of these events on the respective incident days. Information letters regarding the incidents were issued to parents and guardians on May 7 and 10 respectively. Students were informed of these events this morning, May 10. Counsellors are available should students need someone to speak with.

This matter is being investigated by the RCMP and the school district. Any and all leads are being investigated. The school district takes its own measures and will be conducting its own investigation into these incidents. The school district has activated its multi-disciplinary Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) process. This involves the RCMP and other community partners. School and school district officials have and continue to be in contact with the RCMP, the Ministry of Education and Safer Schools Together to ensure the emotional health, safety and well-being of all students and staff at Skeena Middle School.

The school district takes every precaution to ensure the safety of its all students and staff. The safety and well-being of all our students and staff is paramount and events of this nature are taken very seriously.

If you are a parent or guardian of a student at Skeena Middle School, please feel free to contact the school administration if you have further questions or concerns.

Katherine McIntosh
Superintendent of Schools