



Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82

3211 Kenney Street, Terrace, BC V8G 3E9
Tel. (250) 635-4931 or 1-855-635-4931 • www.cmsd.bc.ca

News Release
May 13, 2019

UPDATE RE: CONCERNING MESSAGES - MAY 12 & 13, 2019

We write to you today to provide an update regarding the previous incidents that occurred on May 7 and 10, 2019 at Skeena Middle School. Additionally, we wish to share new information pertaining to incidents that occurred on May 12 and 13, 2019 relating to Skeena Middle School and Mount Elizabeth Middle/Secondary School.

School officials were alerted to a new social media message of concern on Sunday, May 12 at 3:00 p.m. The message was posted on the Terrace Buy & Sell Facebook page by a former student of Kitimat's Mount Elizabeth Middle/Secondary School. School district officials were immediately informed of this new message, who in turn contacted the RCMP and Safer Schools Together to investigate. Persons of interest are currently being questioned by the RCMP and school district staff.

This morning, May 13 at 10:30 a.m. approximately a further concerning social media message was posted on a personal Facebook page in Kitimat. As the RCMP were already on site at Mount Elizabeth Middle/Secondary School, they immediately began an investigation, which included Safer Schools Together. The RCMP continue to have a presence today at both Skeena Middle School and Mount Elizabeth Middle/Secondary School.

The school district is working on arranging School Staff Sessions and Parent Information Evening Sessions facilitated by the RCMP and Safer Schools Together. We hope to arrange these sessions in a timely manner, however, it is dependent on the availability of these organizations representatives.

As previously reported, this matter continues to be 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 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 and Mount Elizabeth Middle/Secondary School.

Students and school staff were provided with updated information today. Counsellors continue to be available should students need someone to speak with.

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

We understand these are difficult events to navigate through and we appreciate your support and understanding as we work through the investigation.

Katherine McIntosh
Superintendent of Schools