



**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE

## Comox Valley Schools

School District No. 71  
**Director of Instruction**

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Dear Parents,

As you may be aware, students in Grade 4 and 7 across the province will soon be writing the Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA). The FSA has a focus on collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and the foundations of literacy and numeracy. The assessments have been developed by BC educators, will be marked by BC educators and are reflective of regular classroom learning. Importantly, the findings from the FSAs have helped, and will continue to help, give educators key indicators to be used in planning, programming, and developing curriculum to support their students. The School District uses the information to prepare, plan and resource student programs; we do not use the FSA to rank schools in our district.

To administer the FSA, we set up a series of sessions over several days and build in enough break times, so that students can do their best work. The FSA requires that students do the same types of tasks they would normally do for reading, writing and mathematics learning.

The FSA is a Ministry mandated assessment for all BC students in Grades 4 and 7.



The Ministry of Education's website contains some excellent information about the FSA assessment. It can be found at <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/infor/welcome.htm> Student booklets and a report will be returned to parents after the FSA has been concluded so that they can see how their child is progressing. We encourage parents to speak with their child's teachers or principal regarding questions about the use of the FSA assessment data in their school.

Yours truly,

Vivian Collyer  
Director of Instruction  
SD71 - Comox Valley Schools