



Comox Valley Schools

School District No. 71
Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Comox Valley Schools would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents/guardians about emergency protocols in place in School District 71. These protocols and procedures around significant threats involving our school community outline the necessary actions to be taken in various emergency situations or if there is a possible significant threat. Please see this detailed information about SD 71's Emergency Program in the provided document: [School Emergency Program Information \(PDF\)](#)

The Comox Valley School District (SD 71) has established a district protocol for dealing with threats to members of the school community, and/or school facilities. When knowledge of a significant threat is made, each school's Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) will complete an appropriate threat level assessment for the specific incident. See this [Letter of Fair Notice](#) regarding the Violence Threat Risk Assessment protocols used by SD 71.

In the event of an emergency, we advise parents/guardians to stay informed by checking SD 71's social media pages, website, and local media outlets for updates and information. We also utilize the **School Messenger** system to send emergency notifications, such as information about emergency situations and school closures due to inclement weather. Instructions on how to opt-in to receive SMS text messages from SD 71 can be found below.

Additionally, we offer an optional app for parents/guardians to install on their mobile devices, enabling them to receive messages directly. Instructions on signing up, downloading, and configuring the app, as well as accessing the platform on the web, can be found in the provided documents:

[SchoolMessenger Parent App Mobile Device \(PDF\)](#)

[SchoolMessenger Parent App Website \(PDF\)](#)

For those who prefer text notifications, you can also opt-in to receive SMS updates regarding emergencies and weather-related school closures. Instructions on how to opt-in for SMS text messaging can be found in the document: [SMS Text Messaging Opt-In Instructions \(PDF\)](#)

It is crucial to remember not to call or visit your child's school grounds during an emergency unless you have received notification from the school, the district, or the RCMP that it is safe to do so. SD 71 will share as much information as possible through the aforementioned channels to keep you informed about emergencies.

Respectfully,

Dr. Jeremy Morrow
Superintendent/CEO - Comox Valley Schools