

Message from Superintendent of Schools Lisa McCullough

(October 27, 2011)

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We posted information on our School District website at the start of the school year to brief you on the province-wide teacher job action that began on September 6, 2011.

As you know, teachers across British Columbia are engaged in Phase 1 of teacher job action while their professional union, the BC Teachers' Federation, is in contract negotiations with the British Columbia School Employers' Association (BCPSEA), the provincial bargaining agent for local boards of education.

During this initial phase of job action, teachers are carrying out their normal classroom work, but are not performing some administrative duties. Currently, this includes the preparation and distribution of report cards, supervision, and participation in parent/teacher interviews organized by school administration.

As the school year moves forward, you may wish to know how your child is progressing at school and how you can support his or her learning at home.

I am writing to you today to assure you that teachers are assessing students' progress as usual, are recording students' marks and are having conversations with students about their learning. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher to set up a meeting or to discuss student progress. You can:

- contact the school office to leave a message for a teacher
- write in your child's agenda (elementary)
- email the teacher directly Note: all staff email is first initial, full last name, tagged with @sd48.bc.ca (lmccullough@sd48.bc.ca)

Please note that marks for Grade 12 students will be made available for graduation, post-secondary applications and scholarship purposes.

During my first week here in Sea to Sky School District, I have had the chance to visit many classrooms. I have been able to make a wide range of observations over this time. I shared in primary students organizing a group presentation and in another classroom, teaching other students. I saw student lead inquiry in action, viewed an applied skills' 'car building' project, witnessed secondary leadership students planning for social change initiatives, and much more. I can already tell you that our teachers are committed to providing a rich teaching and learning environment. We can all be proud of our teachers and their dedication to your children.

We will strive to keep you informed of any developments, as they are happening day to day right now, via our district website at www.sd48.bc.ca. Should you have any questions regarding emerging job action, please contact your school principal.

Sincerely,

Lisa McCullough
Superintendent of Schools