

Uy' skweyul Ladysmith Secondary Students and Families,

This was a hard week for our province as we all grappled with the tragedy in Tumbler Ridge. Resources were sent out by the school district earlier this week about talking with students about this tragedy. You can also find general wellness resources, including the NLPS Wellness Framework, [here](#). Please reach out if we can support your student in any way.

As mentioned in our previous updates, we have a scheduled lockdown drill on February 17th (11:05am). Next week, staff and students will review the procedures together and have an opportunity to practice this important safety routine at school. We will also have our next fire drill on March 2nd. If you have any questions or concerns about any of our emergency procedures, please feel free to contact the school.

Semester 2 is now well under way and students are settled into their classes. At this time, course changes for semester 2 are complete. All students should now have completed course selection for next year. If your student missed course selection or wants to make changes to their selection, please have them connect with their counsellor as soon as possible. We build our timetable for next year based on student choice, so it is important that we have as accurate information as possible.

This week students also had the opportunity to purchase candy grams as well as several other fun Valentine's themed events sponsored by the Student's Council and Interact Club. A reminder that we also have our 2nd annual Toilet Paper Drive in partnership with the Ladysmith Arts Council to support the Food Bank over the month of February. The student's council will be collecting new and sealed toilet paper and cash donations to help stock the food bank with toilet paper. Many thanks to those that have already donated. We look forward to seeing how much is raised this year! Last year we were able to donate 700 rolls of toilet paper and they were able to purchase 4000 rolls in total with the funds that they raised from various donors. The fundraiser will run Feb 2nd – Feb 27th in B Block classes. There will be several prize draws to encourage participation.

Please be advised that students who are not registered to ride the school bus are not permitted to ride home with a friend unless a prior written request has been submitted to the Transportation Department by the parent or guardian of the unregistered child. All requests must be emailed to the Transportation Department before the end of the school day at: transportation@sd68.bc.ca . Unfortunately, without written approval, we cannot allow unregistered students onto the bus, and they will need to remain at the school for pickup. We appreciate your understanding and support in helping us ensure the safety of all students.

Last month, Mr. King sent home a letter to families of students in grades 10 through 12 about the student learning survey. This provincial survey gathers valuable feedback from parents/guardians about school environment, student safety, and achievement. Between January and April, students in grades 10, 11 and 12 will complete their surveys at school.

Our grade 10 to 12 students will be participating in this survey over the next two weeks. We're also asking parents/guardians to complete the parent version of the survey.

Parent/Guardian Survey:

- Takes approximately 20 minutes
- Completely anonymous
- Available in 18 languages
- Can be completed on any device (computer, phone, tablet)
- Open until May 1, 2026

To complete the survey:

1. Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
2. Click the Parents icon for Direct Access (no logon required)
3. Select "Nanaimo Ladysmith" district and "Ladysmith Secondary"
4. Choose your preferred language
5. Complete the questions by clicking the appropriate circle
6. Navigate using arrows in bottom right corner
7. When finished, you'll see "Thank you for sharing your views"

Your input helps us identify strengths and areas for improvement. Results are used for school planning and student support.

Finally, a friendly reminder to all students and families that this coming Monday, February 16th is Family Day, and school will not be in session.

Thanks kindly and hay cep' qa,
Shelley Gvojich & Alistair King

Upcoming events:

- February 16th – Family Day (No School)
- February 17th – Lockdown Drill
- February 17th – 27th – Student Learning Surveys
- February 26th – Ladysmith Heritage Society Awards

PAC Corner.. Your voices matter!

The PAC meeting that was scheduled for February 18th at 6:00 pm has been cancelled. **The next meeting will be April 15th.** Please consider joining us—your input and perspective are always welcome as we look for new ways to support our school community.

Attachments:

- "What's on This Week?" from Kwumut Lelum Child and Family Services.
- Cafeteria Menu

Questions?

Please contact our main office at info.ls@sd68.bc.ca or 250-245-3043

*This e-mail is privileged, confidential, subject to copyright, not intended for distribution, and may not be reproduced without the authority of the sender. Along with privileged information of the organization, this email may contain confidential personal information about students, their families or employees of **NLPS**. Receivers of this email are reminded that they must not forward confidential personal information to anyone who is not authorized to receive it. If you are not the intended message recipient, please contact the sender as soon as possible and do not disseminate, distribute or copy this email. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited.*