



**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Stephen McNiven, B.Ed., M.A., Superintendent of Schools
Barbara Ross, C.P.A., C.G.A., Secretary Treasurer

P.O. Box 4100, 1550 Chapman Street, Merritt, B.C., V1K 1B8, Phone: (250) 378-5161, Fax: (250) 378-6263

September 12, 2019

Good afternoon,

Late yesterday evening on September 11th, School District No. 58 (Nicola-Similkameen) staff received information about a disconcerting online statement made by a student.

That statement immediately had us move into our safety protocols and the RCMP were informed and responded to the source of the comment. Their report to us was that there was no potential threat or harm to the school.

We would like to assure you that there has been no indication of a direct threat to students; however, we do take any incident regarding the safety of students and staff seriously and follow up accordingly. The School District has safety protocols in place including a Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) process. School District No. 58 Safe School protocols are in place and the response and follow up is moving through the stages prescribed by Safe Schools BC and with the advice of the RCMP.

School District 58 (Nicola-Similkameen) promotes a safe school environment for learners and staff and will continue to do so. In order to support these efforts, we ask that you talk to your children about their experiences at school and bring forward any questions or concerns that you may have at any time.

The school was opened this morning and will remain open for your children. We know that these events are disconcerting to students/staff and community and would encourage students to seek out teachers or counselling support if they feel they desire or need it.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free contact the District at 250-378-5161.

Sincerely,

Jameel N. Aziz
Assistant Superintendent