

September 12, 2023

Dear Parents/Families

The following update is being shared with all schools throughout the province with respect to the ongoing police investigation announced on September 7.

The District continues to be limited in the information it can share, due to the ongoing police investigation. However, the RNC has released more information and laid new charges, many of those associated with children and youth. Please find the latest RNC release linked below:

<https://www.rnc.gov.nl.ca/2023/09/12/dozens-more-sexual-violence-charges-laid-as-rnc-investigation-continues/>

We recognize this information is concerning for many throughout our school system. Guidance supports are available in all schools, and where necessary, additional supports such as Educational Psychologists and Student Services staff have been deployed to assist schools. We are again asking all parents/guardians to take time to have an in-depth conversation with your child/children about the importance of safe social media use for everyone. Please remember to be warm, compassionate and patient when engaging in these discussions, as students will have complex feelings about the latest details.

In addition to the supports available at school, students may also wish to avail of anonymous support which is available. Please know students can always reach out to Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868 or online at <https://kidshelpphone.ca/>. In addition, the Journey Project is a reliable support for survivors of sexual violence. Legal Support Navigators are available to help survivors navigate the justice system. Please visit <https://journeyproject.ca/> to learn more.

Anyone experiencing anxiety or crisis as a result of this information, please contact the Mental Health Crisis Line at 8-1-1.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Terry Hall  
Superintendent of Schools