

Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Commission scolaire publique no1 de Yellowknife

Phone/Tél (867) 766-5050 Fax/Télec (867) 873-5051 Email/Courriel info@yk1.nt.ca

Friday, April 17, 2025

Re: Incident at Mildred Hall School - April 15, 2025

Dear families and members of the school community,

I am writing to update the community regarding an incident at Mildred Hall School on Tuesday, April 15, 2025. That morning, the school was contacted by Yellowknife RCMP who advised a lockdown of the school. The RCMP had received information about a threat to the school. The school's administration immediately activated their lockdown protocol. Upon arriving at the school the RCMP quickly found the student in question, who was escorted to Stanton Territorial Hospital without incident. That afternoon, the school's administration issued a statement to the school's families to keep the community informed.

Later in the afternoon, and as a result of reports in the local media, the school and district became aware that a knife had been surrendered to the attending RCMP officers. In our commitment to ensure accuracy, the school district's administration immediately sought, and received, confirmation from the RCMP. In light of this development, the school's administration issued a revised statement.

Thankfully, incidents of this nature are rare. Our schools are among the safest possible places for students and our staff, and we take our commitment to safety seriously. This commitment to safety is in place from the moment an incident begins and continues through to its conclusion. We are also responsible to ensure we have complete and accurate information prior to making any public statements. This responsibility stems from our commitment to the well-being of all who may be affected by the incident.

Our school and district protocols are effective and work well to keep everyone safe. This was clearly demonstrated through the school's response on Tuesday. We always seek to learn from experiences. Our goal is to continue our schools' commitment to keep everyone safe in our buildings. This work is ongoing, with our recent experience further informing our safety planning.



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I recognize that news of this kind can be distressing to those who are affected by it. We have counselors and additional staff on standby to offer assistance to students, staff and families who need it. Those requiring support can arrange it by contacting the school's principal. Support is also available through community counselling. The general number of adults and youth is (867) 767-9110. Youth may contact the child and youth counsellor by calling (867) 767-9110 and dialling the extension 41716.

I would like to thank the school's administration and staff for their timely and effective response to the situation. I would also like to thank the RCMP for their prompt attendance and their handling of the situation. Most importantly, I thank our families for their trust in the school and for giving us the privilege of working with your children every day. Together, we all play a part in our schools being safe places for learning.

Shirley Zouboules
Superintendent/CEO
Yellowknife Education District No. 1