To all Colquitz Families:

Today Colquitz School held a lockdown drill, with the help of our school liaison officers from the Saanich Police department.

It is a requirement for all SD61 schools to have a lockdown drill at least once a year.

The rationale for a lockdown drill is to prepare staff and students for the possibility – however unlikely –that School Administration or Police decide that a lockdown is necessary, in the same way we practice for other types of emergent situations, like fire or earthquake.

As with fire and earthquake drills, we hold a lockdown drill to be sure that our staff and students are aware of lockdown procedures. A lockdown drill prepares us if we ever need to shelter in place. During a lockdown drill students and staff are secured out of sight in locked classrooms and offices, with blinds closed and lights off.

Prior to today’s lockdown drill, teachers went over with students what the drill is for and the procedures they would take. All students were clearly instructed that today was a drill. During today’s drill, police officers and school administration checked each class to make sure the doors were indeed locked and the classes were quiet. It took approximately 8 minutes from start to finish. The police commented on how quiet the students were!

At our next staff meeting, staff will discuss how the drill went to make sure we are always improving.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the vice principal or the classroom teacher.

Sincerely,

Sarah Elford

Vice Principal Colquitz Middle School