

April 28, 2025

To the West Vancouver Schools Community,

We are deeply saddened by the tragic events that took place during the Lapu Lapu Day celebrations in Vancouver this past Saturday.

We know that events like this can feel overwhelming, especially for young people who may not have the skills to fully understand what has happened. Please see the list of community resources below if you need additional support or guidance during this trying time.

In times like these, it helps to limit exposure to distressing news stories, especially those circulating online. Please also talk with your children, listen carefully to what they are hearing and feeling. Encourage them to share their questions and concerns and reassure them that they are safe and supported.

Keeping to familiar routines can provide comfort and empathy toward others can help children feel more secure. We also encourage our staff to connect with each other and take care of yourselves and each other as we move through this difficult time together.

We are committed to supporting the well-being of our staff and students. If you notice any changes in a child's typical behaviour or feel they may need extra support, please reach out to your school. We have also included some trusted resources below for families and staff seeking additional help.

Thank you for your care, compassion and strength during this difficult time. Together, we will continue to support one another and our community.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Broady Board Chair

Chris Kennedy Superintendent of Schools

Resources

- [BC Hospice Resources](#)
- [Canadian Mental Health Association](#)
- [ERASE](#)
- [Healthlinkbc: Helping Children with Grief](#)
- [Kelty Mental Health](#)
- [Learning through Loss](#)
- [Foundry Virtual BC - Foundry BC App](#)