

# SPARLING SCHOOL

[www.brsd.ab.ca/sparling](http://www.brsd.ab.ca/sparling)

5216-52 Avenue, Camrose, Alberta T4V 0X4

Telephone (780) 672-0106 Fax (780) 672-8779

Principal: Andrea Gutmann

Assistant Principal: Jonathan Skinner

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Battle River School Division has an emphasis on safe and caring schools. Part of providing a safe learning environment is helping students and staff be prepared for an emergency.

Our school holds six fire drills each year and we will also be holding two lockdown drills – one in October/November and another in the late winter or spring.

**The upcoming lockdown drill is scheduled for March 23, 2023, at 9:30AM.**

A lockdown is when all the students and staff are tucked into their classrooms (or another safe, lockable area of the school) to avoid an intruder inside the building. This is not a situation we expect our schools to encounter but, just like a fire drill, practicing will help us all be better prepared if such an incident does occur.

When we hold our lockdown drill, discussions will also take place with students in a calm, sensitive, age-appropriate way, so as not to generate anxiety or fear. If you'd like to speak to your children ahead of time, to provide additional reassurance that they are safe at school and drills are what we do so we are prepared 'just in case', we would welcome your support.

During a lockdown drill, the outside doors of the school will also be locked. If you should arrive at the school during the brief time our drill is taking place (either this month or in the spring) you will see a sign letting you know why you can't get in.

It is possible we will have police officers present for the drill, as well as representatives of the school division. Their role is to help us evaluate our preparedness and suggest any changes we might make in future drills.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the school office by phone at 780-672-0106 or by email on the school website contact page.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gutmann and Jonathan Skinner