



# SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

S O U T H E A S T K O O T E N A Y

**Office of the Director of Student Learning & Aboriginal Education**

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Good Afternoon,

At 3:30 today, we received the following Alert:

“An Evacuation **Alert** has been issued by the Regional District of East Kootenay, the District of Elkford and the District of Sparwood due to wildfire and the **potential** danger to life and health to residents in the area **north of the District of Sparwood to Bingay Creek. This includes the District of Elkford, Line Creek, Green Hills and Fording River Operations and all rural properties north of Sparwood**”.

In the case of an Evacuation Alert, we must close schools that are in areas under an Evacuation Alert as an Evacuation Order could come at any time at that point. Therefore, we will be closing the two Elkford schools - **Rocky Mountain Elementary School and Elkford Secondary School** until further notice. The safety of our students and staff will always be our first priority. On the advice of Emergency personnel, the Ministry of Education and examples from other school districts, we have seen the absolute need to take this step.

We will be working with the Regional Districts and individual communities to give updates as soon as they are available and will be communicating with families through our School District website. Please do not hesitate to contact me via phone or email with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jason Tichauer,  
Safe Schools Coordinator, SD5