



December 15, 2023

Uy' skweyul Ladysmith Secondary Students and Families,

I trust this letter finds you well. We are delighted to share some exciting news with you about the recent completion of the upper floor renovation at Ladysmith Secondary School, specifically focusing on the introduction of state-of-the-art washrooms.

Since the summer, our school has been undergoing renovations in response to student advocacy for more inclusive facilities. As a result, we now have seven floor-to-ceiling individual washroom stalls with an open handwashing area that will be officially open for use beginning Monday, December 18th. These washrooms are designed to create a more welcoming and inclusive environment for all students.

The opening of these new washrooms provides us with an excellent opportunity to remind students about the appropriate use of these facilities. We kindly ask for your support in reinforcing the following guidelines with your child:

Washrooms are NOT:

- Places to hang out
- Places to eat
- Places to vape
- To have more than one person per stall

It's worth noting that each stall and the main area are equipped with sensors that can detect vaping/smoking and loud noises.

Washrooms ARE:

- For using the washroom

When your child enters the new washrooms, they may notice that some rooms have toilets and urinals, while others have only toilets. One of the seven stalls is an accessible stall, larger in size, accessible via a foot pedal, and equipped with a lower sink to accommodate those in wheelchairs.

In the spirit of community and respect, it's crucial to highlight that accessible stalls should only be used when necessary. For some individuals, this is the only stall they can use, and your child's consideration ensures that everyone can access these facilities comfortably.

We encourage you to discuss these new facilities with your child and emphasize the importance of respecting these spaces as shared resources for the benefit of all. If your child has any questions or concerns, please encourage them to reach out to a trusted school staff member for support.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation in maintaining a positive and inclusive school environment. We are committed to ensuring Ladysmith Secondary School remains a place where every student feels valued and respected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Epp", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Stephen Epp
Ladysmith Secondary School Principal