

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

News from the December 13, 2005
School Board Meeting



Our Mission:
*To ensure quality
learning opportunities for
students of all ages.*

Melissa Hyndes
Board Chair

Gail Alty
Board Vice-Chair

Holly Butterfield
Debra Burton
John J. Keryluk
Brian Robinson
Diane Sowden
Gerri Wallis
Keith Watkins

Laureen Doerksen
Superintendent of Schools

Lorcan O'Melinn
Secretary-Treasurer



DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Brenda Seaman, DPAC representative for Mary Hill Elementary, accompanied by the PAC Chair and other delegates, presented to the board to seek support for equal access to casino funds for all school playgrounds within the school district. The Board agreed to send a letter of support to the City of Coquitlam.

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

Acting Superintendent David Osborne reported on several events and initiatives underway in our schools and on a district basis including report cards, parent conferences, holiday hamper and family sponsorship programs, family nights, craft fairs and concerts.

He also noted various Ministry announcements regarding allotments of funds:

- School District 43 will acquire \$1.1 million, part of a provincial allotment based on recommendations by labour mediator Vince Ready, for class composition and class size. A series of meetings are underway with the CTA to finalize the plan by the Ministry deadline of Friday, December 16.
- A total of \$1.5 million will be allotted to School District 43 for initiatives dealing with student achievement.
- A further \$1.5 million will be allotted to schools for textbooks and learning resources. Decisions on resources will be made in consultation with parents and staff.

Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn provided the 2005/06 Fiscal Year End Financial Report. As part of the 2005/06 budget process, \$400,000 was reserved until the enrolment reserve funding was announced. The Board approved the release of these funds to the schools.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

As requested by trustees at the November 8th Board meeting, a presentation on the Light Rail Transit initiative was provided by Michelle Blake, Deputy Project Director from TransLink. A discussion ensued following the presentation which included a video.

The Nutrition Policy Committee, consisting of representation from all partner groups and co-chaired by Julie Pearce and Bob Janzen, have been working towards developing a nutritional policy for the district. Ms. Pearce and Mr. Janzen reviewed the work of the committee to date and intend to forward draft recommendations in January.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee representatives and alternates were established for a number of committees.

Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn outlined the draft budget process and timelines for the upcoming 2006/07 budget year. Also reviewed were the proposed Principles, Assumptions and Criteria for use during the 2006/07 budget process and the School Planning Council Questionnaire.

The Board passed a Capital Project Amendment allowing the reimbursement for costs incurred in restoring Eagle Ridge Elementary School following a March 2004 arson fire.

BCSTA ITEMS

Board Chair Melissa Hyndes noted that 150 newly elected trustees from around the province, as well as a number of returned trustees attended the recent BCSTA Leadership Academy.



Mark Your Calendar!

The next regular Board Meeting will be
Tuesday, January 10, 2006
7:30 p.m.
School Board Office

For more information on the Board Update Contact:
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