

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

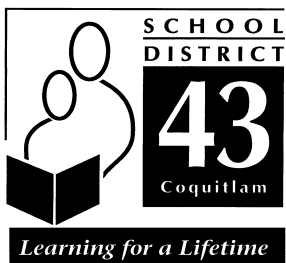
Melissa Hyndes
Board Chair

Gail Alty
Board Vice-Chair

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Debra Burton
John J. Keryluk
Brian Robinson
Julie Rogers
Gerri Wallis
Keith Watkins

Laureen Doerksen
Superintendent of Schools

Lorcan O'Melinn
Secretary-Treasurer



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

*News from the February 22, 2005
School Board Meeting*

DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATION

The presentation "Opening Doors for Every Student" was deferred due to illness.

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent Laureen Doerksen commended the many schools that continue to be involved in fundraising activities for tsunami victims of Southeast Asia. Amongst the initiatives:

- Some Riverside Secondary students and staff are planning a trip to an orphanage in Kerela, India, where they will bring donated items and help in reconstruction
- Summit Middle leadership students held an outstanding school-wide spirit assembly featuring a Powerpoint presentation and fund-raising competitions, all organized by the students
- A group of grade 11 and 12 Charles Best Secondary students organized and obtained sponsors for a community/family dance at Glenayre Elementary
- Citadel Middle raised a considerable sum by having 12 students and teachers raise pledges for shaving their heads

Other items of note:

- Some Centennial students will be heading to Tijuana, Mexico, to help build a school in an impoverished area
- Final preparations are underway for the official opening ceremony of Heritage Woods Secondary Thursday, February 24
- Lincoln Elementary is in its final week of "Lincoln Loves Literacy Month"
- Elementary and middle school public speaking finalists are busy rehearsing for the District Public Speaking Festival to take place the first week of March
- The annual District Career Fair will take place Thursday, February 24 at Dr. Charles Best Secondary
- Multiculturalism was a big focus at two middle schools: Banting Middle students worked with prominent First Nations artist Rick Harry in creating two houseposts which were unveiled at a recent potlatch ceremony, while Scott Creek Middle is proudly flying 70 flags representing all of the heritages of its staff and students
- Seaview Elementary has put into place an exciting plan for increasing its after school activities at a nominal fee to students
- Panorama Heights Elementary teacher Caroline Bernicki was named by the City of Coquitlam as Ambassador of Coquitlam at the Evergreen Arts Centre Gala. Grade 6 student Raymond Zeng was also named as an ambassador. While in grade 5 at Panorama, Raymond composed a song that has become the theme song for the City of Coquitlam

SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorcan O'Melinn noted that the district is anticipating that final figures on the recent funding announcement are expected from the Ministry by March 15th.

The School Planning Councils' Budget Planning Session will take place Wednesday, March 2nd, 7:00 p.m. at Charles Best Secondary.

EDUCATION

Bob King, Curriculum/Assessment and Staff Development and VP Pinetree Secondary, presented descriptions of 17 Board/Authority Authorized courses that meet BAA requirements. Eight additional courses are currently being considered and will be presented before the spring deadline. The 17 courses received Board approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob Janzen, Director of Finance, and Pam Diamond, Food Services Coordinator, presented to the Board the information they conveyed as guests of a recent District Parent Advisory Council meeting. They outlined the operations of the school cafeteria program and its offerings.

The Board adopted the 2003/04 Final Budget Bylaw. The budget for the 2004/05 fiscal year is \$218,275,320.

The 2004/05 fiscal year-end projection indicates a surplus of \$832,000.

As the City of Coquitlam has declined a request by BC Disability Sports to host the 2006 BC Disability Games and expressed interest in hosting the 2010 or 2012 games, the school district will not proceed further with the application.

The Board will send a letter of support to the Citizens Examining the Social Impact of Gambling, an organization studying the social and economic effects impact of gambling in BC.

BCSTA ITEMS/BUSINESS

Trustee Julie Rogers reported on the BC School Trustees' Association Provincial Council meeting.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Rogers reported on her attendance at the BCSTA Metro meeting, the board of directors meeting and the Provincial Council.

Trustee Holly Butterfield noted the upcoming DPAC meeting of which she will be in attendance. As well, she attended the Ranch Park Elementary public speaking finals and the Anmore book fair and talent show.



Mark Your Calendar!

The next regular Board Meeting will be Tuesday, March 15, 2005
7:30 p.m.

School Board Office

For more information on the Board Update Contact:
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