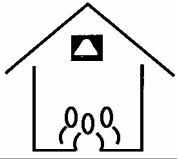


# School District 43 (Coquitlam)



## ***The Board Update***

*News from the Board  
meeting of*

*Tuesday,*

*January 28, 2003*

**All**

**ABOARD!**

### **Trustees**

**Holly Butterfield**

*Chair*

**Brian Robinson**

*Vice-Chair*

Gail Alty

Debra Burton

Melissa Hyndes

John J. Keryluk

Julie Rogers

Gerri Wallis

Keith Watkins

### **Administration**

**Laureen Doerksen**

*Superintendent of Schools*

**Lorcan O'Melinn**

*Secretary-Treasurer*

### **Presentations**

#### **Coquitlam Teachers' Association (CTA)**

President Kathleen Thomson described Provincial Collective Agreement issues including class size and composition, numbers of specialist teachers, and increased amount of paperwork. She asked for Board support in addressing the provincial education funding freeze.

### **District Staff Reports**

Superintendent Laureen Doerksen highlighted activities in schools during January and February including:

- Grade 12 students preparing for provincial exams and strategies employed by teachers to assist students in preparing to take exams such as Saturday Math days and evening tutorial sessions.
- A continuous improvement in school district provincial exam participation rates and graduation rates.
- The completion of the renovation at Port Moody Secondary where they held the first assembly with the entire student body in 20 years. The Superintendent commended administration, staff and students for their patience and flexibility during the construction.
- The celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Teen Mom Program at CABE.
- Literacy Month activities at a variety of schools. David Bouchard, one of the best-selling authors in Canada, visited Moody Middle School.
- Various Lunar New Year celebrations in anticipation of February 1st such as Chinese luncheons, lion dancers, Korean drummers, cooking demonstrations, decorations and traditional celebrations that help us to embrace diversity in schools.
- Transition activities such as Counsellors assisting students with course selections and Riverside students presenting anti-bullying skits at feeder schools.
- Kindergarten registration on February 11, 12, 13 and March 14th application deadline for out of catchment students to reflect new legislation and new Board regulations.
- Early and Late French Immersion information meetings for interested parents.
- School Planning Council training sessions marking the beginning of the official work for School Planning Councils.
- Superintendent Doerksen invited Assistant Superintendent Gary Conley to provide an update on the follow up to the school consolidation decision. Assistant Superintendent Conley described the actions to be taken as follows:
  - meetings with principals of the three schools designated for closure;
  - initial meeting of district staff and school principals re: district catchment areas;

## **District Staff Reports (continued)**

- cluster group to meet and review first draft of proposed catchment areas;
- parent meetings regarding proposed catchment areas as follows: February 3rd—Montgomery, February 4th—Cedarbrook, February 5th—Burquitlam;
- recommendations from Superintendent's office to Board on February 18th. Facilities, staffing, movement of equipment and supplies to be overseen by Assistant Superintendents McGill and Conley.
- The Board did not approve a request from the McCreary Centre Society to administer Adolescent Health Survey III to students in Grades Seven to Twelve.

Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn said that as of December 31, 2002 the district shows an under expenditure of \$495,000. He advised that cost pressures such as sick leave, retirement, and utility and energy expenses may change the final budget position at year end.

Secretary-Treasurer O'Melinn outlined the process for the 2003/2004 budget and the five input mechanisms to be used as follows:

- School-based feedback;
- Presidents of Partner Groups Committee;
- Direct partner group responses;
- District Management Committee;
- Direct public input.

He said that it is expected that detailed funding allocations will be received at the beginning of March at the earliest and the preliminary budget bylaw will be passed by the end of April.

Secretary-Treasurer O'Melinn said that the school district is looking into obtaining leasing revenues for the three schools designated for closure: Montgomery, Cedarbrook, and Burquitlam Elementary Schools. Expressions of interest are to be directed to Director of Purchasing Services, Dex Hallwood. The school district will not be considering the sale of the school sites.

## **Board Committee Reports**

Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee Gerri Wallis said that the following items were addressed at the January 21, 2003 meeting:

- School District No. 43 Business Company;
- 2002-2003 Financial Report;
- Proposed budget process for 2003-2004;
- Revenue generation for the three closed schools and no land sales;
- List of consultants contracted for more than \$10,000;
- Next meeting on April 15, 2003.

Chair of the Human Resources Committee Gail Alty reported that one item from the meeting held on January 21, 2003 will be reported as a recommendation from the Wellness Committee under new business.

## Unfinished Business

### Report on Student Transportation

Director of Purchasing Services Dex Hallwood made a report on student transportation including areas of responsibility, Ministry funding, and provincial and school district walk limits.

Director Hallwood presented the following options for consideration by the Board during budget deliberation for 2003-2004:

- a move to use Ministry walk limits, or
- adherence to district walk limits.

The Board approved a motion to consider the options during the 2003-2004 budget deliberations.

### School District Planning Councils

The Board approved Draft Policy 1-A-3 *School Planning Council* as amended.

### School Consolidation Recommendation #2

The Board approved School Consolidation Report Recommendation #2, as modified, that, "student enrollment at the remaining schools be monitored with a report to the Board no earlier than 2007."

## New Business

The Board considered and approved the first reading of School District Business Company Bylaw No. 1-2003 for incorporation of a School District Business Company. The item will be referred to the next meeting of the Board.

Director of Human Resources Rob Carson reported on the recommendations from the Wellness Committee. The Board approved motions to:

- strike an ongoing representative committee to address wellness concerns;
- offer accessibility to flu shots for employees; and
- develop an employee recognition program.

## BCSTA Items / Business

Trustees were reminded by Board Chair Holly Butterfield of the deadlines for submission of motions to the BC School Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting to be held from April 24 to 27 in Kamloops, BC.

The Board approved a motion to forward two of the motions proposed in the CTA presentation to the BCSTA Annual General Meeting in April.

The Board approved motions for the BCSTA Annual General Meeting.

## Trustee Reports

Trustees commented on the excellent weekend BCTF Education Funding Conference that they attended with members of the CTA and CUPE.

Trustee Robinson invited interested parents, teachers, support staff, and administrators to a consortium meeting on February 10th at 5:00 p.m. at the CTA Office.

The Board approved a motion to write a letter to the provincial government requesting that they pay the increase in teachers' salaries.

Trustees acknowledged the successful 10th anniversary celebrations of CABA (Coquitlam Alternate Basic Education) and will invite CABA to present at a Board Meeting.

Trustees said that the Montessori Parent Information Night was well attended and the new registration process was well received.

Trustees reported on the BC Public School Employers' (BCPSEA) Association conference.

The Board will examine ways to incorporate CTA suggestions in a motion at the next Board Meeting.

## Mission Statement

*Our mission is to ensure quality learning opportunities for all students of all ages.*

### Mark Your Calendar!

#### Education Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2003  
@ 7:30 p.m.  
District Office, Board Room

#### Next Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2003  
@ 7:30 p.m.  
District Office, Board Room

**For more information on  
The Board Update  
contact:**

**Patricia Gartland,  
District Principal - District  
Programs**

**The Board Update is also  
available on our website —  
[www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)**