



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

News from the June 28, 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

Julie Rogers

Gerri Wallis

Keith Watkins

Laureen Doerksen

Superintendent of Schools

Lorcan O'Melinn

Secretary-Treasurer



DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Mac Maio, Director of the Tzu Chi Foundation, presented a video on the Foundation's Canadian assistance in the Sri Lanka Tsunami Relief Mission. Foundation members then presented School District 43 with a cheque in the amount of \$15,000. The annual donations are used to fund extra curricular activities for a number of students in SD43 whose families are encountering financial hardship. Chair Melissa Hyndes thanked the Tzu Chi Foundation for its continued and appreciated support, and presented them with a plaque.

Seyoon Chung, President of the Student Leadership Council, provided an overview of SLC activities over the past school year. She provided information on their continued work on developmental assets, reported on their annual conference held in Mission last April, and introduced the new executive for 2005/06. The Chair thanked the outgoing SLC for its continued commitment and wished the graduating members success in their future endeavours.

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

Acting Superintendent David Osborne reported on various activities that have taken place in the final days of the school year. Among the items noted:

- Como Cares Assembly at Como Lake Middle, which focused on the fundraising efforts for Canuck Place in memory of former student and Canuck Place patient, Rahim Lalji.
- IOCO School held its open house June 22nd, welcoming current and former staff and students and the community. After 82 years of providing education, IOCO School has ceased operations.
- The 6th Annual Hog Wild About Reading motorcycle ride will take place on September 25th. Over the past five years, this ride for literacy has raised over \$35,000 for library books.

As requested by the board, Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn provided clarification of the 2005/06 budget allocation for vulnerable students and that our fiscal year end projection is for a \$800,000 to \$900,000 surplus of which \$800,000 is needed to balance next year's budget

EDUCATION

Aileen Kirkham, Administrator of Special Projects (Early Literacy), reported out on two of the many special projects that took place over the last few months: one involved improving literacy skills of early learners and involved grade one classes in 12 schools, while the other involved the development of needs assessment forms.

David Osborne, Assistant Superintendent, provided a presentation on ESL (English as a Second Language) in the district, clarifying the current population characteristics.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trustees approved a motion authorizing the closure of the IOCO site, declaring that the building is no longer required for educational purposes by SD43. IOCO's educational program is being transferred to Gleneagle and Dr. Charles Best Secondary Schools.

Trustees were provided information on Surrey School District's pilot website called "Protecting Surrey Schools Together". The website invites students to report on-line, incidents of bullying, vandalism, weapons, or any other illegal activities in Surrey schools.

NEW BUSINESS

Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn and Mark Dale, Director of Facilities, reported on district-wide facilities planning. A consultant was engaged to assist in this process to provide planning information on facilities conditions, seismic conditions and enrolment projections. District staff has been using this information for preparing the capital plan due in October 2005.

In working towards a New Policy Model, a condensed handbook has been compiled, dealing mainly with governance responsibilities and roles, while a number of policies will move into an Administrative Procedures Manual. The board approved a motion to waive policy to enable this to occur. Trustees approved the Board Policy Handbook and received the Administrative Procedures Manual.

TRUSTEE CALENDAR PLANNING

Amongst the calendar items, the board confirmed the date of October 13, 2005 for the first Employee Long-Term Service Recognition ceremony.



Regular Board Meetings for the months of July/ August – at the call of the chair

For more information
on the Board Update
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