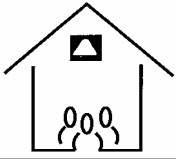


School District 43 (Coquitlam)



The Board Update

*News from the Board
meeting of
Tuesday,
March 11, 2003*

**All
ABOARD!**

Holly Butterfield

Trustees

Chair

Brian Robinson

Vice-Chair

Gail Alty

Debra Burton

Melissa Hyndes

John J. Keryluk

Julie Rogers

Gerri Wallis

Keith Watkins

Laureen Doerksen

Superintendent of Schools

Administration

Lorcan O'Melinn

Secretary-Treasurer

Presentations

Queen's Golden Jubilee Award

Member of Parliament James Moore presented the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award to Cathie Camley, Executive Director, Learning Disabilities Association of BC and founder of the Family Resource Centre. This prestigious honour was awarded in recognition of her many contributions in support of students with exceptional learning needs.

Volunteering in Schools

Dave Allen, Vice-President of the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC), requested that the Board support DPAC's motion "That the Board review policy to enable volunteers to coach sports activities, and sponsor school clubs, dances and activities within School District #43 schools where there is not school staff available."

He described the benefits of parent involvement in schools including the promotion of teamwork, effective communication and community relations. He emphasized that the parental participation in school was important to the development of children as well-rounded individuals.

CUPE Presentation Regarding Three Day "Non Replacement Policy" for certain CUPE classifications

President of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 561 asked that the Board end the Three Day "Non Replacement Policy".

Response to Previous Delegations

Board Chair, Holly Butterfield, read the letters of response to:

- Dave Irving, President, and Ray Jennings, Secretary, Oakdale Heritage Society
- Brad West, Student, Riverside Secondary
- Linda Reimer, President, DPAC
- Kathleen Thomson, President, CTA
- Eunice Parker, Coordinator, Council for Canadians, Coquitlam Chapter.

The letters will be mailed to the presenters.

District Staff Reports

Superintendent Laureen Doerksen reported on recent events and activities in the school district including the visit by the Ministry of Education's District Review Team during the week of March 24 to 27.

The purpose of the team is to provide feedback regarding district work to improve student achievement.

Ten key areas will be examined: district goals, rationale used to develop them, how we have used data to establish goals, aligned resources and structures, strategies, how we communicate as a district and as schools, partnership and alignment between district and school goals, district parent involvement, and shared leadership.

The Superintendent said that there has been a high incidence of a flu-like virus during the past weeks with high rates of absenteeism and involvement of community health units.

At the beginning of February, the Ministry of Education required a second enrolment snapshot. There will be two snapshots next year and operating budgets will be adjusted based on enrolment.

The annual public speaking festivals have been held recently with high participation rates.

An early success screening tool has been effective in providing Kindergarten teachers with a measurement tool and a Grade 1 screen is being piloted in schools this year.

The curriculum and staff development department is helping staff to use assessment to adjust strategies for learning.

The district will host the provincial middle school conference Connections 2003 on May 1-3. The event is chaired by Principal Scott Robinson and Teacher Mark Clay. The conference committee involves teachers, vice-principals, and principals across the district.

Other school district activities include:

- Thirty elementary schools are involved in preparing for a shared non-instructional day in May.
- Information for students about how to coexist with coyotes.
- The \$7,800 raised by Jump Rope For Heart program at Rochester Elementary School.
- The Raider Raven at Moody Middle.
- A First Nations Multicultural Day at Coronation Park Elementary.
- The Jesus Christ Superstar production at Centennial.

Superintendent Laureen Doerksen commended school staffs on the tremendous variety of experiences that have been offered to students so far this year.

Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn asked Director of Finance Bob Janzen to present the 2002/03 Final Budget. The Board approved all three readings, final passage and adoption of the budget bylaw.

The Secretary-Treasurer said that the School District #43 Business Company (SDBC) is being formed in response to community feedback that the school district pursue opportunities to generate revenues to minimize staff layoffs and provide quality educational opportunities to our students. The Board approved a motion to incorporate Article 13.10 into the articles of the School District Business Company.

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed a series of frequently asked questions with answers. These FAQ's will be posted on the school district website.

Board Committee Reports

Trustee Melissa Hyndes reported that all matters dealt with at the Human Resources Committee Meeting were deemed to be in camera.

Trustee Gerri Wallis, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, reported that items included a presentation by lawyers Bull Housser Tupper on the SDBC, articles of incorporation and amendments, and leasing of elementary schools.

Trustee Gerri Wallis reported on the City of Coquitlam Liaison Committee Meeting.

- The possible removal of the barricade at Miller Park Elementary School to allow better accessibility in light of anticipated increased enrolment at Banting Middle School was discussed.
- The Committee discussed the handling of requests for field improvements in the future.
- Leasing issues on the three closed elementary schools were discussed.
- The Director of Facilities Services Bill Low provided an update on construction at Alderson Elementary School. The new school will be opened in September 2003 and the old school will be demolished.
- The bicycle information seasonal program called "Get To Know Your Bike" regarding bicycle safety was presented.
- The new gymnasium at Centennial is 75% complete and is expected to be completed by April.
- The Eligible School Site Proposal and agreements around the acquisition of land were discussed.

Trustee Holly Butterfield reported on the topics at the City of Anmore Liaison Committee meeting, including:

- Differential rates and the Eligible School Site Proposal.

Trustee Melissa Hyndes reported that the City of Port Moody Liaison Committee included the following topics:

- Differential rates and the Eligible School Site Proposal.
- An update on the Heritage Mountain Secondary School site by Director Bill Low.
- Transportation effects on schools and new BC Translink routes.

New Business

The Board considered and approved all three readings, final passage, and adoption of Capital Project Bylaw No. 5-2002 for site acquisition for a middle school (650 capacity) on Heritage Mountain. The 10 acre site is located in the Village of Anmore.

BCSTA Items / Business

Trustee Melissa Hyndes listed the motions that will be brought forward at the BC School Trustees Annual General Meeting.

Trustee Reports

Trustees commented on the maturity and high calibre of student speakers at the District Public Speaking Festival. They also remarked on the outstanding theatrical production of the musical "Jesus Christ Superstar" at Centennial Secondary School.

Mission Statement

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

Mark Your Calendar!

Next Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

@ 7:30 p.m.

Will be held in the Gallery Room At
Winslow Centre to accommodate
public presentations on budget

Education Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

@ 7:00 p.m.

(note time change)

District Office Board Room

Tuesday, April 8, 2003

Education Committee Meeting is
cancelled

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