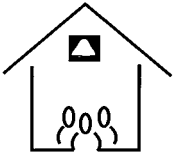


School District 43 (Coquitlam)



The Board Update

*News from the Board
meeting of*

Tuesday,

May 13, 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

Dr. John Moss, Member of the Panel of the Charter for Public Education, presented the Charter for Public Education, which is the result of public hearings held in 42 communities across British Columbia during 2002—2003. The charter is available on the website at www.charter.publiced.ca.

District Staff Reports

Superintendent Laureen Doerksen introduced Assistant Superintendent Julie Pearce and District Principal Donna Greenstreet who outlined School District No. 43's strategic planning process entitled Designing Our Future: A Blueprint for Excellence. The process will be launched in June of this year with a final report and recommendations expected in June 2004.

The Superintendent said that this process has been initiated as a result of a change in context and the fact that the recommendations of the Challenge Ahead, the strategic planning process for the year 2000, have been met. The Board approved the Strategic Planning Process.

Superintendent Doerksen described recent events and activities including:

- The Foundation Skills Assessment tests are being written this week in grades 4, 7, 10
- A Provincial Middle School conference held in our school district
- An elementary sharing session on a professional development day
- The ground breaking ceremony at the new Heritage Mountain Secondary School attended by Minister of Education Christy Clark and Trustee Melissa Hyndes. Input is sought from students, staff, parents, and community members for a name for the school to open in September 2004.
- The Partnership Recognition Ceremony held on May 12 at Gleneagle to recognize and honour our community and corporate sponsors.
- She further announced that Director of Facilities Bill Low will be retiring in July.

Other school events are:

- Kindergarten orientation evenings
- Spring fairs
- Plant sales
- R.C. MacDonald's 25th anniversary celebration and playground

District Staff Reports (con't)

- opening
- The Destination Conservation celebrations on May 23
- The middle and elementary school track and field meets
- Secondary dinner and dances, graduation ceremonies, and dry grads
- The CPVPA Retirement dinner on May 23
- The Board Retirement Function on June 5.

The Superintendent said that the staffing process is underway—we are projecting a decline in enrolment of 600 FTE students for September 2003. This will result in a layoff and recall process for teachers—posting and filling is expected to be completed by June 30.

Directors of instruction positions have been created for curriculum and student services as a result of not filling the vacated Assistant Superintendent position. Principal and vice-principal assignments will be announced on May 28.

New legislation officially recognizes students as members of School Planning Councils.

New graduation requirements have been announced with exams at grades 10, 11, and 12 . A booklet on these changes will be sent to each secondary school teacher by the end of June with changes to take effect in September 2004 for students currently enrolled in grade 8. Current Grade 9 students will be "grandfathered."

The province is planning to develop a student administration system that districts may purchase.

The Board approved a motion to send a letter to the Minister of Education reminding her that she forgot to include the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) in the School Planning Council (SPC) format.

Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn presented the 2002-2003 year end projection. There is an anticipated under-expenditure of \$4.2 million. The projected year-end position has improved by \$50,000 as compared to last month's forecast. Sick leave and retirement costs continue to require monitoring.

Director of Purchasing Services Dex Hallwood showed comparison data on rental charges in school districts and facilities usage information for our school district. He presented community feedback regarding the impact of increased rental rates.

Next Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 3, 2003 @ 7:30 p.m.—District Office, Board Room

Education Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 20, 2003 @ 7:00 p.m.—District Office, Board Room

Board Committee Reports

Trustee Gail Alty reported that the Human Resource Committee meeting of May 5, dealt with the following three topics:

- Principal and vice-principal performance reviews were considered and approved
- An update on grievances was discussed
- The staffing layoff process was explained.

The remainder of the items were deemed to be in-camera. The Board approved the Standing Committee report.

Trustee John J. Keryluk reported on the City of Port Coquitlam Liaison meeting held on April 16.

The Board approved the city liaison committee report.

Unfinished Business

Director of Finance Bob Janzen made a presentation on the needs budget submission to the Ministry of Education.

Trustee Reports

Trustees praised the following district and school events:

- The Coquitlam Principals' and Vice-Principals' Cancer Run
- The Como Lake Relays
- The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) course taught by Corporal Stephan Brossard at Pinetree Way Elementary School
- The Generation Fitness pilot at Blakeburn Elementary School
- Riverside Vocal Jazz, Chef Bert Gibson, the Foods and Nutrition 12 class at Gleneagle, and the Partnership Recognition Ceremony
- The Aboriginal Gathering in Belcarra Park.

For more information on the Board Update, contact:

Patricia Gartland, District Principal, District Programs