

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

News from the May 9, 2006
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
Diane Sowden
Gerri Wallis
Keith Watkins

Laureen Doerksen
Superintendent of Schools

Lorcan O'Melinn
Secretary-Treasurer

DELEGATIONS

Al Scholes, Ella Bendorf and Bev Lebedowick, founding members of a volunteer anti-litter group IMPACT, updated the Board on their efforts to date and provided suggestions on how schools could get more involved in anti-litter initiatives.

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent Laureen Doerksen reported on a number of events and initiatives in the district including:

- Banting Middle's annual plant sale
- Articulation activities for grade 5's, and kindergarten orientation
- Upcoming commencement ceremonies
- Record contributions to the Dry Grad activities
- The Toys for Amnesty Project initiated by Moody Elementary teacher Susan Ruzic
- The annual Learning Team Celebration May 17th at the Winslow Gym
- Grade 12 students at Pinetree Secondary and Dr. Charles Best Secondary are initiating a blood donation drive challenge
- The annual Roots of Empathy celebration held May 4 at James Park Elementary. There were 48 ROE programs this year.

UPDATE ON BILL 33

Rob Carson, Director of Human Resources, reported on details of Bill 33 - Ministry legislation to amend the School Act in dealing with class limits.

NEEDS BUDGET

At the Board's request, a draft "Needs" budget document was prepared, which will be forwarded to the Ministry. It calls for \$13.4M in additional funding to address reductions in funding since 2001.



EDUCATION REPORTS

Elaine Boisson, Coordinator for Programs and Services – Student Services, and Lynne Sowerby, Department Head for Student Services at Port Moody Secondary, provided details regarding School Completion Certificates for students who are on modified programs. The Board approved a continuance of our district's current practice while carrying out a Modified Graduation portfolio pilot project at two sites.

Murray Peters, Coordinator – Gifted Education, and Anya Bayley, Speech Language Pathologist, reported on an Assistive Technology pilot project called "Tools for Schools". Assistive technology allows students with special needs to enhance their learning potential and represent their learning more effectively. Mr. Peters also provided an overview of the district's Gifted Education Program.

NOTICES OF MOTION

A notice of motion was served to review Policy 14 – Hearings in Teacher Disciplinary Matters.

BCSTA ITEMS/BUSINESS

Chair Melissa Hyndes reported on the BC School Trustees' Association annual general meeting held recently in Prince George. Ms. Hyndes was among five elected to the BCSTA board of directors.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Holly Butterfield recapped a recent liaison meeting with the Village of Anmore. Discussions included the school district's capital planning process, the drafting of a joint letter to Translink re: busing schedules to Heritage Woods Secondary, graffiti, casino funds, the status of the development of the nutrition administrative procedure and other items of mutual interest.

Trustees reported on various school and community events they attended over the past three weeks.



Mark Your Calendar!

The next regular Board Meeting will be
Tuesday, May 30, 2006
7:30 p.m.
School Board Office

For more information on the Board Update Contact:
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