

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

News from the November 18, 2003
School Board Meeting

Our Mission:

To ensure quality learning opportunities for all students of all ages.

Holly Butterfield

Board Chair

Brian Robinson

Board Vice-Chair

Gail Alty

Debra Burton

Melissa Hyndes

John J. Keryluk

Julie Rogers

Gerri Wallis

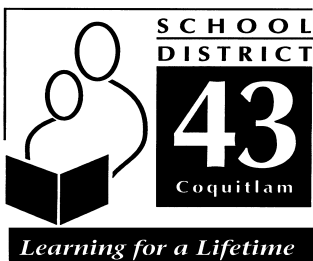
Keith Watkins

Lauren Doerksen

Superintendent of Schools

Lorcan O'Melinn

Secretary-Treasurer



DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Student Leadership Council (SLC) President Tamara Ramusovic (Centennial) led a presentation on the council's theme for this year – Asset Building. In her presentation, she summarized the 40 developmental assets identified for the healthy development of students. In support of the initiative, the board proclaimed the week of February 16-20, 2004 to be Asset Awareness/Building Week in District 43.

Three Pinetree Secondary grade 10 students – Nikki Matwivs, Tania Armstrong and Alison Dexter – outlined their concerns regarding pending boundary changes necessitated by the September 2004 opening of the new Heritage Woods Secondary.

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Treasurer Dave Allen outlined funding challenges faced by the organization. DPAC is requesting an additional \$7,500 to assist in expenses and initiatives.

Ken Juvik, an Anmore parent and local councilor, requested that the board take a decisive stand against the marketing and sales of non-nutritious foods in our elementary and middle schools.

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

The Board received a report from Assistant Superintendents David Osborne and Bob McGill on the School Catchment Review, to assist in establishing the catchment for Heritage Woods Secondary and rebalancing the populations at Pinetree, Gleneagle, Port Moody, Centennial and Dr. Charles Best Secondary Schools. Dr. Osborne outlined the establishment of the steering committee, the feedback process and various recommendations. The Board will deliberate on the review at its next meeting.

The report is available on the District 43 website at www.sd43.bc.ca, or contact the Board office at 604-939-9301 local 265.

Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn provided an update on the Eligible School Site Proposal and reported that the City of Port Coquitlam did not accept the proposal. The Board approved a motion asking the Minister of Education to appoint a facilitator to assist in resolving the issue.

Mr. O'Melinn also clarified references to a more than \$6 million budget "surplus" in District 43. Of that amount, \$2.2 million was used to pay off the district's accumulated deficit; approximately \$4.4 million was carried over to balance the 2003/04 budget, leaving less than \$400,000 in unallocated funds.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Facilities Committee Chair Gerri Wallis reported on a Nov. 4 meeting, where the committee discussed audit and pension issues.

Trustee Gail Alty, Chair of the Human Resources Committee, noted that all items at its last meeting were deemed in-camera.

Chair of the Ad-Hoc Committee Debra Burton reported on a Nov. 13th meeting, where the committee further defined protocol.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion centred on a postponed motion from the October 21 Board meeting regarding the Education Minister's response to the Board's letter re: Bill 51 (changes to the College of Teachers). Trustees decided not to send a letter at this time and will be bringing the issue back at another meeting.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Trustee Debra Burton gave written notice of motion to review district policies and procedures pertaining to the sale and provision of food and beverages to students. The motion will be debated at the next public meeting.

BCSTA ITEMS/BUSINESS

Trustee Keith Watkins reported on his attendance at the Oct. 31st/Nov. 1st Provincial Council sessions.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

- Trustees Hyndes, Keryluk and Wallis reported on their attendance of Remembrance Day ceremonies at various schools, which they noted were well presented and meaningful.
- Trustee Gail Alty attended the Coquitlam Montessori Society's AGM. The Society is celebrating its 20th anniversary and is working hard at fund-raising activities. Trustee Alty also attended a meeting of the Coquitlam Foundation and noted an upcoming meeting of the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Task Force.
- Trustees Debra Burton and Brian Robinson enjoyed the recent 2003 District Honour Concert, coordinated by the Coquitlam Music Teachers' Association. Trustee Burton commended the tremendous effort by students and teachers.
- Trustees Burton and Keryluk reported on their attendance of the latest Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee.
- Trustee Julie Rogers attended the two-day BCPSEA Labour Relations symposium where bargaining structures and procedures were among the items on the agenda.



Mark Your Calendar!

The next Board Meeting will be
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2003
7:30 p.m.

School Board Office
550 Poirier St., Coquitlam.

*For more information on the Board Update, contact:
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