



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

# The Board Update

News from the November 8, 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*



## DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

Acting Superintendent David Osborne reported on several events and initiatives underway in our schools and on a district basis including:

- Compiling information on class size and composition
- District Performance Plan
- Preparations for the District Review
- Halloween and Remembrance Day activities
- An outstanding achievement by Port Moody grad Etienne O'Toole
- The Annual Red Serge Classic
- Two BC Lions' appearance at Walton for the Read, Write and Roar Literacy Program
- Gratitude to Riverside counselor Pam Wattamaniuk for her involvement in Encounter with Canada Program
- November 30 webcast "What Does Parent Involvement Look Like?"

Secretary-Treasurer Lorcan O'Melinn noted that TransLink will hold a series of community open houses Nov. 23 to Dec. 7 regarding Light Rapid Transit. The Board requested staff to arrange a presentation by TransLink.

## EDUCATION

The Board approved the 2005-06 District Performance Plan presented by Maureen Dockendorf, Director of Instruction – Curriculum and Staff Development, and other members of the curriculum department. This year's theme is "Engaging Student Learning". The annual Performance Plan provides an opportunity to re-visit previous goals and objectives and to re-commit to current goals which this year are improvements in Literacy and Numeracy Skills, Graduation and Completion Rates and Socially Responsible Behaviour.

Assistant Superintendent Sylvia Russell presented Technology Planning – The Road Ahead. She outlined the following district initiatives involving learning supported by technology:

- Equity of educational experiences for our students
- One-to-One Wireless Writing Project
- Learning Portal/Electronic Portfolio
- Integration of technology in school construction projects

## NEW BUSINESS

The issue of the expanded mandate of the Ministry of Education and the future role of school boards was discussed. A letter will be sent to Penny Tees, President of the BC School Trustees' Association stating that:

- The Board is willing to discuss an enhanced role in partnership with the Ministry of Education
- Any changes to the role of school boards should reaffirm local autonomy
- That appropriate funding be provided to school boards for any expanded mandate such that it will not impede a board's ability to improve student achievement from K to grade 12
- The need for openness and consultation with boards will also be stressed in the letter.

## EXPRESSION OF NON-CONFIDENCE

The Board will send a letter expressing non-confidence in the Minister of Education in the way that the Deputy Minister of Education, Emery Dossdall directed the Board handle the teachers' pay following the strike.

## TRUSTEE CALENDAR PLANNING

The Chair requested staff to propose a date near the end of January for the Staff Long-Term Appreciation function.



### Mark Your Calendar!

Board Inaugural Meeting  
Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2005  
Winslow Centre  
Gallery Room  
7:00 p.m.

The next regular Board Meeting will be  
Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2005  
7:30 p.m.  
School Board Office

For more information on the Board Update  
Contact:  
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