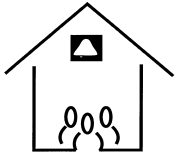


School District 43 (Coquitlam)



The Board Update

*News from the Board
meeting of
Tuesday,
September 9, 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

District Staff Reports

Superintendent Laureen Doerksen reported on school startup for 2003-04, noting that school administrators and staff have ensured a smooth start while dealing with the challenges that accompany the first week.

Ms. Doerksen was pleased to report that early enrolment figures show enrolment up by 114 from spring projections. Human Resources Director Rob Carson noted that in the latest "capture" done September 8, there were 30,931 FTE (full time equivalent) students registered. That figure is likely to change before final enrolment numbers are sent to the Ministry September 30.

In her report, Superintendent Doerksen touched on various initiatives:

- The August meeting of administrators which marked the kick-off of the strategic planning process – *Designing our Future: A Blueprint for Excellence*
- An upcoming session for School Planning Councils for input into the district Strategic Directions
- A new coordinator for the Police Liaison Program
- Annual Terry Fox Run
- *Hog Wild for Reading* sponsored by the Principals/Vice-Principals' Association
- The great work of the Facilities and Maintenance departments in readying the schools
- The hard work of those involved in major renovations at Alderson and Rochester Elementary Schools
- The International Summer School drew 242 registrations

Summer School Report

Continuing Education Director Louise Thorburn reported on a successful Summer School program. Total registration for Summer School 2003 was 2930, an increase of 90 registrations from Summer School 2002.

Secondary School Catchment Determination Process

The future opening of Heritage Woods Secondary School necessitates a need for a review of secondary catchments for the successful accommodation of students in September 2004. Assistant Superintendent David Osborne will lead that process, and he outlined the goals and timeline. The consultation process will involve partner groups including the elementary feeder schools. A recommendation will go the Board at its November 18th meeting.

Board Committee Reports

Trustee Melissa Hyndes reported on the last School Board/City of Port Moody Liaison Committee meeting. Among the topics on the agenda were school/community partnerships.

Trustee Julie Rogers reported on the School Board/City of Coquitlam Liaison Committee Meeting, noting that plans are underway for an official opening ceremony of the Centennial Activity Centre, a gymnasium and adjoining activity room at Centennial Secondary that is shared between the school and the community.

Amended Eligible School Sites Resolution

Earlier this year, trustees passed the first Eligible School Sites Resolution, which required the acceptance of the five local governments. When three of them did not concur with the land valuations, the school district engaged an appraisal firm to do another estimate. Trustees approved an amended resolution, which incorporates a revised valuation.

New Business

Third and final reading was received for Capital Project Bylaw No. 5A-2002 – additional site acquisition costs for a new middle school on Heritage Mountain.

The Board reviewed a letter from Education Minister Christy Clark, in response to a Board request that CUPE representatives be allowed to sit on School Planning Councils. The Minister indicated that there are no plans to amend the legislation. The Board moved to send a letter out to all partner groups to canvass their opinions.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Brian Robinson received a letter from the Ministry of Children and Family Development, praising the staff at Ioco School.

Next Regular Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board will take place Tuesday, September 30, 2003 at 7:30 pm in the Board Room at 550 Poirier Street, Coquitlam.

*For more information on the Board Update, contact:
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