



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

News from the February 26, 2008
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

Diane Sowden

Gerri Wallis

Keith Watkins

Tom Grant

Superintendent of Schools

Lorcan O'Melinn

Secretary-Treasurer

DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Jessica Wollen of the Children of the Street Society provided the Board with information about the Society, as well as initiatives that are taking place within the Tri-Cities area in recognition of STOP the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Awareness Week 2008.

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS DELEGATIONS

The Board responded to the Coquitlam Public Library Board, who presented at the last meeting regarding ongoing and future collaboration with the school district.

The Board also responded to the District Parent Advisory Council who presented at the February 5 meeting regarding traffic safety survey results at local schools.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Tom Grant reported on a number of events and initiatives:

- As the Easter Long weekend blends with Spring Break this year, schools will be closed during the break March 17-21 and the following Monday and Tuesday
- The final district level Echo Enrolment Reports have been completed and submitted to the Ministry
- Graduating students at Heritage Woods Secondary presented their grad portfolios last week
- Heritage Woods Secondary will present its first ever musical "Robber Bridegroom"
- Compliments to all those involved in organizing the Pro-D day February 15
- February 27 will mark a national anti-bullying day which will be recognized by wearing pink
- Maple Creek Middle's Literacy Conference was featured in the BCSTA's e-Digest publication
- The district will receive a \$173,725 Literacy Innovation Grant from the Ministry of Education
- During the month of March, the International Education Program will host two short-term groups from overseas, one from Japan and one from Russia

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Lee from the City of Coquitlam outlined details of the two proposed routes of the Evergreen transit line. Trustees will discuss this issue at the March 11th public meeting.

The Ministry has approved a seismic remediation project at Meadowbrook Elementary.

EDUCATION REPORT

Wendy Bennett, Health and Safety Manager and Mike McGlenen, Banting Middle School VP, provided an update on the work of the Emergency Awareness Committee. Plans are being finalized on an elementary and middle school full release May 7 at 1:15pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Third and final reading was received for the bylaw pertaining to the Burquitlam Elementary Lease Agreement with M.L.E. Training and Research Society.

The Board approved a draft advertisement concerning funding for public education. It will be circulated to the partner groups for their input and participation.

Trustees passed a motion to direct staff to complete a Project Agreement on Combined Seismic Projects for submission to the Ministry of Education.

NEW BUSINESS

Director of Finance Bob Janzen reported on the 2007/08 Fiscal Year-End Forecast, based on completion of 50% of the school year.

The Board passed the 2007/08 Amended Annual Budget, as required by the Ministry of Education.

The Board approved a motion concerning the annual Eligible School Site Proposal which will be forwarded to the five local governments for acceptance.

Acting Facilities Manager Frank Giampa provided the amended 2008/09 Annual Capital Plan for trustee consideration and approval. The only change from last November's approved plan is the addition of a site on the Fraser Mills property in south Coquitlam for an elementary school.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Policy 7 – Board Operations - will be reviewed at the next public board meeting.

BCSTA ITEMS

The Board thanked the BC School Trustees Association for its recent presentation to the board and confirmed that the district will continue to participate as a member of the BCSTA.

The Board will draft a letter to the newly appointed Deputy Minister James Gorman congratulating him on his appointment, and reinforcing the need to work collaboratively.



Mark Your Calendar!

**Next Regular
Board Meeting**
Tuesday, March 11, 2008
7:30 p.m.
Board Office
550 Poirier Street
Coquitlam

For more information
on the Board Update
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