



## ***School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)***

# ***The Board Update***

*News from the January 15, 2013  
School Board Meeting*

**Our Mission:**  
*To ensure quality  
learning opportunities for  
all students of all ages.*

**Melissa Hyndes**  
*Board Chair*

**Holly Butterfield**  
*Board Vice-Chair*

Gail Alty  
John J. Keryluk  
Brian Robinson  
Judy Shirra  
Diane Sowden  
Gerri Wallis  
Keith Watkins

**Tom Grant**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

**Tom Grant**  
*Acting Secretary-Treasurer*

### **DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Eagle Ridge Hospital Foundation Vice-Chair and Chair of the **Wheel to Heal** (W2H) event, and Mike Mostrenko, Eagle Ridge Hospital physician and Volunteer Board member of the ERH Foundation, spoke about the annual W2H event fund-raiser.

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee reps Principal Laurie Ebenal, Ab Ed Resource Teacher Trista Fuller and Elders Carole (Wolfwoman) Pierce, Laura Talbot and Claudia Savage, spoke about various initiatives underway in the Aboriginal Education program. SD43 has a much higher than provincial average school completion rate amongst is aboriginal learners, due largely to the implementation of various programs.

### **DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS**

Superintendent Tom Grant noted several initiatives and events:

- Various registrations are poised to begin – Montessori, Early French Immersion, Mandarin Bilingual, Reggio, and in February – Kindergarten, Late French Immersion and Cross-Boundary
- SD43 has an enhanced social media presence, led by the new Communications & Social Media Assistant, Heather Escaravage
- Foundational Skills Assessment testing will take place shortly
- The annual District Staff Volleyball Tournament will be held Fri., Feb. 1 at Riverside Secondary
- The Suwa'lkh Learning Centre will host an Open House Wed., Jan. 30

### **Kudos to:**

- Greg Miyanaga, teacher and part-time Coordinator, who is featured in in the Winter edition of LEARN Magazine, for his work in the Learning from Classrooms early learning project, and the publishing of the Bright Ideas Gallery
- Board office accounting clerk Ina Cikansky and her daughter Robin, a Community Schools Coordinator, for their work on Project 25 – collecting donated toiletries and treats for distribution to women in Vancouver's Eastside
- Thanks to Vancity Credit Union for its generous donation of \$1,000 in gift certificates for Citadel Middle's Christmas Hamper Drive
- Natalie Malakoff's grade 1-2 French Immersion class at Ecole Kilmer, one of 25 classrooms selected in a draw for BC Hydro's Community Champions Program, receiving a \$1,000 award. A computer will be bought for the classroom with the proceeds so students can do research and do presentations on environmental projects
- Alderson Principal John Goheen, who was recognized again for his work with the Royal Canadian Legion Pilgrimage of Remembrance, this time with the Minster of Veterans Affairs Commendation

### **EDUCATION**

Sally Maidens, Principal of Meadowbrook Elementary, Tamara Sengotta, Learning Support Teacher and a grade 5 Meadowbrook student, presented information on the Reggio Influenced Program, in its first year at that school.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Board approved amendments to Policy16 – Recruitment and Selection of Personnel, reviewed a new AP – Recruitment and Selection of Principals and Vice-Principals, and the replacement of AP 140 – now the District-Wide Internet and Network Appropriate Use.

Superintendent Tom Grant and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Chris Nicolls presented the 2012-13 Financial Outlook. For the first time in many years, the district is facing a significant budget shortfall of \$7.5 million. This is largely due to an enrolment decrease of more than 200 students, grant funding reductions resulting from reduced holdback funding, cost pressures and less than anticipated revenues. Several austerity measures have been put in place to recoup as much money as possible by June.

## BCSTA ITEMS

Chair Melissa Hyndes will attend the BC School Trustees' Association Provincial Council February 23. Trustee Judy Shirra will attend the BC Public Sector Employers' Association AGM.

## TRUSTEE CALENDAR PLANNING

Trustees reviewed various upcoming meetings and events.

## TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Brian Robinson attended the SD43/City of Coquitlam liaison meeting Oct. 24. Among the discussion items were the recent consultations on the sale of school property and shared use of fields.

Trustee Gerri Wallis attended the Coquitlam Foundation's National Philanthropy Day 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. She also noted that applications for bursaries and grants from the Foundation are now available online.



### Mark Your Calendar!

#### Next Regular Board Meeting

Tues., Feb. 5, 2013  
7:30 pm

Board Office Boardroom  
550 Poirier St.  
Coquitlam BC

For more information  
on the Board Update  
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