



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

News from the June 15, 2010
School Board Meeting

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

Melissa Hyndes
Board Chair

Brian Robinson
Board Vice-Chair

Gail Alty
Holly Butterfield
John J. Keryluk
Judy Shirra
Diane Sowden
Gerri Wallis
Keith Watkins

Tom Grant
Superintendent of Schools

Rick Humphreys
Secretary-Treasurer

DELEGATONS/PRESENTATIONS

- Four students from Mountain Meadows Elementary provided a demonstration of projects they were working on utilizing Smart Board technology
- Two Centennial Secondary students, along with teacher Jason Giles, presented a synopsis of the Galileo project – School Completion and Beyond, and their work in the Voice to Action project
- Student Sally Chang provided a year-end review of the work of the Student Leadership Council, whose focus was Social Responsibility
- Dave Werthman spoke to the Board regarding objection to a Rogers Communications proposal to locate a cell tower in a cemetery close to Coquitlam River Elementary School

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent Tom Grant noted a number of events and initiatives:

- Year-end school activities, including commencement ceremonies
- The full-day Kindergarten session “Playful Possibilities” July 5-6 is now full
- Annual art showcase at Coquitlam Centre featuring the work of secondary students
- International student Dasha Boishenko won the BC Student Film Festival’s Most Promising Filmmaker Award, and the Filmmaker of the Year at the “Reel Stars” Student Film Festival
- Charles Best Secondary student Selin Jessa won first place and a \$20,000 bursary from the University of Ottawa for her short film in a national contest sponsored by the Canadian Immersion Teachers’ Association
- Mountain View Elementary received a grant from IKEA for a library enhancement
- ACE-IT joinery students built a new kitchen for the Port Coquitlam Women’s Resource Centre
- Reporters from the two local newspapers – Tri City News and the Coquitlam NOW – were thanked for their extensive coverage of education in our district

Secretary-Treasurer Rick Humphreys reported on a Ministry announcement regarding funding for accommodating full-day kindergarten. Coquitlam School District will receive funding for 11 modular classrooms throughout the district and 9 additional classrooms at Aspenwood and Bramblewood Elementary Schools.

EDUCATION

- Staff Development Coordinators Don Gordon, Heather Daly and Jill Reid presented the 2009-10 District Achievement Contract and Literacy Plan. The Plan is available on the district website at www.sd43.bc.ca
- International Education Director of Instruction Patti Gartland reported on another successful year of the program. The International Education Program continues to generate significant revenues for the school district, enhance our international reputation and assists the district to prepare its students to participate in the global society

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Superintendent Tom Grant reported on Class Size/Composition consultations that have occurred throughout the year.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Board signed a Cooperation Accord with the City of Coquitlam, designed to work together on mutually beneficial cooperative initiatives in order to maximize tax dollars
- Assistant Superintendent Julie Pearce provided information on the School Community Connections – Supporting Neighbourhood Learning Centres grant. The district is partnering with the City of Coquitlam to maximize the grant opportunities
- Trustee school liaison assignments for 2010-11 were determined
- Administration Procedure 156 – Official Opening Ceremony for Schools – was received with a wording change to reflect modern language

Trustee John Keryluk brought forward a number of resolutions pertaining to a proposed cellular tower by Rogers communications near Coquitlam River Elementary School. Following considerable discussion, the following resolution was passed by the Board of Education: “Be it resolved that SD43 oppose any proposed installation of a cellular tower or antenna that would be sited nearer than 305 metres of a school in School District No. 43, and that the Board be so notified of any such proposed installation”.

Trustees voted to approve a modest increase in Trustee Indemnity. The Trustees have not received an increase in six years, and by policy were eligible to receive the average of the Tri-City councilor increases, which this year would have been almost 30 percent. Instead, the Board voted to approve the amount by \$2,280 per Trustee – the amount that they did not take back in 2007.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Chair Melissa Hyndes provided a notice of motion dealing with Trustee Indemnity, which will be brought forward at the next regular Board meeting.

BCSTA ITEMS

The Board Chair participated in a recent Strategic Planning session, of which a report will be brought back to members in September.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Various trustees reported on their attendance at performances, commencement ceremonies and recognition events.



Mark Your Calendar!

Next Board Meeting
September 14, 2010
7:30 p.m.
School Board Office
550 Poirier Street
Coquitlam

For more information
on the Board Update
Contact:
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Summer Vacation

