



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

# ***The Board Update***

*News from the June 2, 2009  
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*

**Bob Janzen**

*Acting Secretary-Treasurer*

## **DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Centennial Secondary students, with sponsor teacher Jason Giles, spoke to the Board about the development of a new course offering called Voice to Action 11. The course was developed as part of the Galileo project – “School Completion and Beyond”.

Student Energy Ambassadors from Dr. Charles Best, Riverside and Port Moody Secondary, with direction from Energy and Sustainability Manager Mark Clay, are spreading the word to fellow students about taking care of our planet by reducing energy consumption and being environmentally aware.

An Education Partnership Agreement was signed by Envision Financial and the Board. Envision has supplied a grant to the district for student energy initiatives.

## **DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS**

Superintendent Tom Grant noted a number of events and initiatives:

- Registration for Summer Learning has been brisk
- Kathy Chan, a grade 12 student at Heritage Woods, won a gold medal for baking at the National Skills Competition
- Students from 7 of our secondary schools submitted artwork for the Coquitlam Centre Art Exhibition
- A number of our middle and secondary band students played in the inaugural Concert Band Festival
- The Aboriginal Education Program will host its Annual Gathering and Awards Ceremony Saturday, June 13 at Lions Park in Port Coquitlam
- The First Annual Reel Starts Student Film Festival will be held June 12 and 13
- An SFU Faculty of Education Program – Teachers as Leaders and Mentors – co-developed by SFU and Coquitlam teachers, will begin in the fall of 2009
- A film clip about the space mission was played, featuring astronaut Robert Thirsk, a former student of Glenayre Elementary

Mark Clay, Manager of Energy and Sustainability, reported on the direction of energy management and sustainability in the School District.

## EDUCATION

Glen Elementary was one of two schools in BC to receive an RBC After School Grant.

Following a PowerPoint presentation on Aboriginal Education in our District, three students shared some of their experiences .

## NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed and approved the 2009/10 Capital Plan, which outlines a number of replacement and seismic projects deemed a priority by the District.

Assistant Superintendent Sylvia Russell provided information on class size/ composition consultations at the secondary school level.

## BCSTA ITEMS

The following Trustees were awarded certificates for years of service with the BC School Trustees' Association:

Keith Watkins – 15 years  
John J. Keryluk – 9 years  
Gerri Wallis – 15 years

## TRUSTEE REPORTS

- Brian Robinson gave kudos to fellow Trustee Gerri Wallis for her work on the Coquitlam Foundation.
- Diane Sowden was pleased to take part in some multi-cultural activities at Banting Middle as part of its after school club.
- Chair Melissa Hyndes enjoyed Glen's "Au Revoir" ceremony, and Centennial's grad.  
Trustees Gerri Wallis and Judy Shirra attended the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Coquitlam Soroptimists.
- Trustee Shirra also attended the celebration of 40 years of French Immersion in our district, and she enjoyed Riverside's grad.



### Mark Your Calendar!

#### Regular Public Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 23, 2009  
7:30 p.m.  
School Board Office  
550 Poirier Street  
Coquitlam

For more information on the Board Update  
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