



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

News from the November 4, 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

The Board acknowledged John Goheen, Principal of Alderson Elementary, in his achieving the Royal Canadian Legion Meritorious Service Award for development of a program and tour of Canadian military involvement in Europe.

Three students of Centennial Secondary, along with sponsor teacher Jason Giles, presented on the Galileo Project - Learning for Today's Learners, in which students were asked to design their ideal school.

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent Tom Grant reported on a number of events and initiatives taking place in our school district:

- thanks were extended to administrators, school staff, maintenance workers and students, who helped ensure a safe Halloween
- various Remembrance Day activities are being planned
- more than 700 students from History 12 and Social Justice 12 classes will attend the first annual Holocaust Symposium at Coquitlam Alliance Church on November 5
- Maple Creek Middle School hosted representatives of "Invisible Children", a project that profiles the recruitment of child soldiers in Uganda. Also at Maple Creek Middle, its third annual Health and Wellness Fair featured four former Olympians
- on November 12 Heritage Woods Secondary will broadcast a live student-led webcast in conjunction with Vancouver 2010 Education, featuring 2008 Olympic gold medal winner Carol Huynh
- our district will host an early learning panel on early child development called *Multiple Perspectives on Early Child Development* on December 4 at the executive Plaza, for administrators, district staff and primary teachers
- Mike McElgunn, a teacher at Gleneagle Secondary, has been selected as the BC recipient of the Canadian Society for Education Through the Arts National Award of Excellence in Art Education
- Port Moody Secondary teacher Joy Galea was recently awarded recognition from the Teachers of Home Economics Specialist Association

Assistant Superintendent Dan Derpak presented a declining enrolment report. While enrolment continues to decline, recent initiatives announced by the Ministry may affect our enrolment trend. Therefore, no school closures were recommended at this time. The Board supported this recommendation.

EDUCATION REPORTS

Sarah Husband, District Principal of Continuing Education, and Randy Manhas, Vice-Principal, reported on the 2008 Summer Learning Program. Total registrations were up significantly this year, as courses are now free of charge. Once again, the program had a high success rate.

Jamie Ross, Director of Human Resources, reported on the school district/UBC partnership for Master's Degree in Counselling.

BCSTA ITEMS

Trustee Melissa Hyndes will attend the BCSTA "Keyword Academy" December 4-6. The Centennial choir will open the Academy.

Trustee Gail Alty reported out on her attendance at the BCSTA Academy.



Mark Your Calendar!

Inaugural Meeting

December 9, 2008
7:00 p.m.
Winslow Center
Gallery Room

Regular Board Meeting

December 16, 2008
7:30 p.m.
School Board Office
550 Poirier Street
Coquitlam

For more information
on the Board Update

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