



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

The Board Update

News from the September 11, 2012
School Board Meeting

Our Mission:

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

Melissa Hyndes

Board Chair

Judy Shirra

Board Vice-Chair

Gail Alty

Holly Butterfield

John J. Keryluk

Brian Robinson

Diane Sowden

Gerri Wallis

Keith Watkins

Tom Grant

Superintendent of Schools

Rick Humphreys

Secretary-Treasurer

DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The Board proclaimed October 5th as World Teachers Day, supported by UNESCO. Chris King of the Coquitlam Teachers' Association noted that this year's theme is "Taking a Stand for Teachers". Board Chair Melissa Hyndes and Superintendent Tom Grant accepted an invitation to say some opening remarks at the Teacher's Representative Assembly Oct. 3rd.

Sharon Gregson, Coalition on of Child Care Advocates of BC, presented a PowerPoint on "A Community Plan for a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning".

Dr. Shubhayan Sanatini, a pediatric cardiologist at Children's Hospital, and Wendy Bennett, the district's Health & Safety Manager, presented on importance of onsite Automated External Defibrillators (AED devices). All of SD43 sites have recently acquired AEDs, and Dr. Sanatini praised the Board for its pro-active stance.

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent Tom Grant noted a number of initiatives and events:

Special thanks to:

- The Human Resources staff, for long hours on the layoff and recall process
- Maintenance and caretaking staff, who worked so hard to get the schools ready for the onslaught of students and staff
- Facilities division, who have spent many hours over the summer overseeing capital projects and planning for new ones
- Management and support staff, who ensure that all of the operational systems are running seamlessly
- Administrators, for their leadership during a difficult last year and guidance during start-up
- Board of Education, for consistently putting learners first
- The teachers, for their exemplary work in making our district an outstanding one
- This year we welcome our first students to the Reggio classrooms at Meadowbrook, students in the Suw'alkh Program, an increased number of Montessori classrooms and the first grade 3 classes of the Mandarin Bilingual Program at Walton
- There are 17 new initiatives from the Legislature - some are minor changes while others have significant impacts
- Mr. Grant attended, on behalf of our district, the 2012 TELUS Taiwanfest Opening Ceremony & Opening Reception at the Vancouver Art Gallery Plaza Sept. 1. Members of the Tzu Chi Foundation did a great job at hosting the proceedings.
- Congratulations to various former students of the Tri-Cities community on their participation in the Olympic and Paralympic games:
 - ◆ Tong Nyhuang
 - ◆ Brittney Timko
 - ◆ Jessica Smith
 - ◆ Megan Pinske
 - ◆ Nathan Stein