February 9, 2022

## Burke Mountain Secondary School Update

School District # 43 Coquitlam would like to update the community on progress regarding a new secondary school on Burke Mountain.  You may be aware that SD43 has been working for quite some time to try to obtain funding from the province to build this new school as student enrolment projections indicate that a new school is required.

Last summer, the province approved SD43 to develop a detailed business case with a deadline to complete the report by March 31st, 2022.  We are happy to report that this requirement was submitted to the Ministry of Education (MOE) on January 18th, 2022, well ahead of schedule.  Currently, MOE staff and SD43 staff are reviewing the report in anticipation of the MOE to go to the Provincial Treasury Board for funding approval later this spring.

We are hopeful that Treasury Board will fund this project so that we will be able to build a new school to serve the students of this community for the 2026/27 school year. The next few months are critical to gain funding support in order for SD43 to be able to achieve a September 2026 opening date for the new school.

When the school initially opens, it will function as a middle school and a secondary school that will run as two separate schools in one building until such time as funding can also be obtained for a new middle school for the area. SD43 and the City of Coquitlam have partnered together to form a school/park site at this location which will include an artificial turf field, Grade A grass field, and other park amenities. The site location is off of David Avenue and just east of Coast Meridian. For further information, please follow this link to the Burk Mountain Middle/Secondary page on the district website.

SD43 would like to thank the MLA Fin Donnelly, the Cities of Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam, and the community for all of their advocacy to date for this project.

Thank you