

Dr. Charles Best Secondary

2525 Como Lake Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3J 3R8 Website: www.sd43.bc.ca/charlesbest

Principal – Carol Coulson, Vice-Principals – Rob Lederer, Anita Young (seconded to District), Mary O’Neill (acting)



Best Vibrations Newsletter – Discover Your Best

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Our school goal is to develop a culture of connectedness and belonging within the school, among school staff, students, and our parent community, in order to enhance opportunities for collaborative partnerships.

HIGHLIGHTS

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We would like to acknowledge the staff and students who worked so diligently last semester completing courses and preparing for exams. Results from the English 12, Communications 12 and Francais 12 Provincial government exams are available for students to access on the Ministry of Education’s exam website. Students will need their nine-digit PEN (Personal Education Number) to access their results. The ‘draft’ lists of students recognized for Super G, Honourable Achievement and Honours with Distinction from semester one are posted in our hallway outside the office for students to check and soon will be emailed home to families. As always, good things happen when you “discover your best”.

Our second semester courses are well underway, and Spring Break is just around the corner. As the school year quickly passes, our senior students are also coming to the realization that their time at Dr. Charles Best Secondary is winding down. Understandably, there has been a flurry of activity in the Counsellors’ Offices and in the Career Centre, as our prospective graduates mark their last semester here by applying for scholarships and post-secondary programs. We continue to work hard to ensure that transcripts for our graduates are accurate and complete.

Over the past several weeks, our counsellors have been very busy helping students with course selections and programming for next year. Programming sheets for our grades 9, 10 and 11’s were all due this week to the counsellors. If your sons or daughters have not yet filled in a form, we ask that you remind them to do so. This will ensure that their selections can be entered for next year.

It’s been a great winter season at Best with several teams competing in the Fraser Valley and Provincial Championships. Our senior and junior boys and girls basketball teams have all had great seasons and we thank our teacher and community coaches for all of their hard work and dedication to our student athletes. In Wrestling, the team is sending four athletes to the Provincial tournament this weekend in Salmon Arm. Charles Best is also hosting tournaments for grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 district basketball playoffs. These tournaments are being run by our Athletic Leadership class. The yearly Lacrosse Provincials are being hosted this week at Best and as spring approaches, we are also seeing our Golf, girls’ junior and senior Soccer, Badminton, and Track and Field teams gearing up. Good luck to all of our athletes!

A number of students will be participating in international travel over Spring Break as Mme Bruneau and Manolis are taking a group of French Immersion students to France. We wish all the students and staff a safe journey and a rewarding learning experience.

Parents, too, have been very busy planning events. The plans for the “80’s” themed Dinner Dance, scheduled for March 4th, are coming right along. This dance is hosted by the Grade 11 parents as a fundraiser for the grads of 2018 and is a great community-building event. In addition, our After Grad parent committee is busy planning fundraisers for After Grad 2017.

We wish you a relaxing and enjoyable Spring Break in March!

Carol Coulson,
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

March 2

Interim Reports (only emailed to parents with students who are “not meeting/minimally meeting expectations”)

March 3

On-line booking opens for Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

March 4

Parent Dance (80’s Theme) – Small Gym 6:00 pm

March 6

PAC Meeting – Library 7:00 (All parents welcome)

March 8

Spring Music Concert – Gym 7:00 pm

March 9

Early Dismissal – 2:00 pm
Parent/Teacher Interviews – Gym 3:00 pm
Grade 12 Parent Meeting – Library 6:30 pm

March 13 - 24

Spring Break

March 30

“A Starry Night” Spring Dance – 7 pm – Small Gym

April 4

“Parents as Partners in Prevention” presentation – Library 7:00 pm

April 14 – 17

Easter Long Weekend (school closed Friday, April 14 and Monday, April 17)

April 20

Miracle Movement – 3 – 8 pm, Small Gym

April 21

Pro-D Day (students do not attend school)

April 27

Third Formal Report Card distributed

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING THIS MONTH?

POETRY IN VOICE 2016

The Charles Best Library hosted another fantastic afternoon of **Poetry in Voice** on February 16th. Special congrats to Juliana Nunes, Inaya Bhimani and Max Botsis, top three placers in the English stream, and to Claire Song, Saba Saberi and Jung Hee Park, top three placers in the Bilingual stream. Juliana and Claire qualified for the national on-line semi-finals. Students making it past the semi-finals will participate in the National finals in Vancouver against students from across Canada, all hoping to win the top prizes of \$5000.00. Juliana, Inaya and Claire also qualify for the regional championship in March at Prince of Wales Secondary. They will form a team performing one English poem each, competing against nine school teams from around the Lower Mainland. Many thanks to judges Leann Buteau, Thomas Guan, Michele Harding, Steve Murray, Mary O'Neill, Bhashi Pather, Raphael Perdriau, and Nafi Touré, who all offered their time to judge the performances. Go to www.poetryinvoice.com to find more information about this annual event. It's never too early to start planning for next year!

WHAT'S COMING UP?

INTERIM REPORTS PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS – MARCH 2017

The Interim Reporting process will be the same as it was in October. We remain committed to communicating student progress with families and will specifically focus on students who are struggling at this time. Teachers will email directly the parents/guardians of any students who are either "Not Meeting Expectations" or "Minimally Meeting Expectations" in their classes. If you do not receive any emails from teachers by 5:00 pm on March 2nd (the date when our original interims were scheduled to be brought home), the assumption is that your child is "Meeting Expectations" in all of his/her classes. While this process may not feel like it is providing sufficient information, it is actually similar to the "snapshot" of student progress that interims typically communicate at this time. The third formal report card, with letter grades, work habits, and teacher comments, will be distributed to all students on April 27th, as per our usual formal reporting timeline. As always, you are encouraged to contact teachers directly, either by email or phone, for more information regarding your child's progress. You are also invited to attend the Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews that are scheduled for Thursday, March 9th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm and 5:48 to 7:48 pm. We encourage you to schedule an appointment by following the link on our school website: www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/charlesbest/Pages/default.aspx. If you have difficulty using the online booking system, please call the school at 604-461-5581. Appointments can be booked online starting Friday, March 3rd until noon on Thursday, March 9th. Please note that there is also a meeting for parents of Grade 12 on the same evening (March 9th) at 6:30 pm in the school library.

"A STARRY NIGHT" SPRING DANCE

The Charles Best Student Council is very excited to announce that on **Thursday, March 30th**, we will be having our annual Semi-Formal Dance! This year's theme is "**A Starry Night**." Below is everything you need to know:

When and where will the dance take place? Thursday March 30th from 7 to 9 pm in the small gym.

Who is the dance open to? All grades.

How much does a ticket cost? \$6 each or \$25 in groups of 5 (the \$25 option is only available when purchasing tickets at school).

Where are tickets being sold? At school during blocks 3, 4, and 5 AND online. To purchase online, go to the Dr. Charles Best School Website and click on Student Fees under Quick Links.

Do I need to bring my GoCard when purchasing the ticket at school? Yes! Tickets will not be sold to students without a valid Charles Best GoCard. Any questions? Stop by the foyer during ticket sales or feel free to speak with Mr. Hakeem. Hope to see you all there!

SPRING PLAY – "BYE BYE BIRDIE"

As the radiant days of spring melt the freezing snows of winter, the Best Players are on the stage and as busy as a hive of hopeful bees. This is our musical year at Charles Best and once again the drama and music departments have joined forces to present **Bye Bye Birdie**. The story parodies the life of Elvis Presley, when similar teen heartthrob Conrad Birdie, at the peak of his fame is drafted into the military. His nearly bankrupt manager and totally heartbroken fans must learn to deal with the loss. So, in a vain attempt to cash in one last time, manager Albert Peterson and his secretary/love interest Rosie choose one lucky fan to receive one last kiss from Birdie on live television. This classic musical comedy with book by Michael Stewart, lyrics by Lee Adams and Charles Strouse opens Wednesday, May 3rd and runs May 4th, 5th, 6th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th. Directed by Brad Case, with musical direction by Brent Hughes and choreography by Alexa Graf, tickets for **Bye Bye Birdie** are \$15.00 for adults and \$12.00 for seniors and students. Box office opens at 6:45 pm with doors at 7:00 pm and curtain at 7:30 pm. Stay tuned for more as rehearsals progress but save the dates on your calendar now!

MIRACLE MOVEMENT

Miracle Movement is scheduled for Thursday, April 20 from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the small gym. This event is supported by the Children's Miracle Network and will include dancing, performances, food, and fun activities to raise money for B.C. Children's Hospital.

ATHLETICS

JUNIOR BOYS' BASKETBALL

The Junior Boys' Basketball team placed first at the Westview Tournament, and third at the Archbishop Carney Tournament, where Liam Sheather and Geoffrey Nonis received MVP awards. Geoffrey Nonis scored a tournament high 32 points in their second game. Unfortunately, a few mid-season injuries plagued our Junior Boys' team but they showed character and competed well in a strong basketball league. The future looks bright for basketball at Best.

INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

THINKING OF MOVING?

As we begin to plan our school organization for the next school year, we are looking carefully at the number of students we anticipate for September. If your family will be moving before September, we would appreciate a call or a note sent to our office. This will greatly assist us in our planning.

PAVEMENT REHABILITATION – MARINER WAY

The City of Coquitlam have informed us that they will be repaving a section of Mariner Way, between Como Lake Avenue and just south of Mara Drive. This work will not directly impact the school but traffic flow on Mariner Way will be impacted during construction. This work is scheduled to commence in March and will take approximately one week to complete. Crews will work Monday through Saturday between the hours of 7:00 am and 7 pm. Traffic delays are to be expected but every effort will be made to minimize the disruption.

DR. CHARLES BEST FUNDRAISER – FUNDSCRIP GIFT CARDS

Our school is pleased to bring you a Fundscrip gift card fundraiser starting from February 1st until May 31st and if successful will continue each school year. We would like to raise funds for projects such as purchasing more picnic tables (\$1,500 each), silk flowers for Commencement Ceremonies/Awards Night (\$1,000), bulletin boards to display students' projects, etc. Pay for your everyday expenses and gifts using gift cards bought from Fundscrip. Each purchase generates earnings for our school. A paper order form is available at the office or you can pay on-line on our school website under "Quick Links, Gift Card Fundraiser". Great gift ideas for Mother's Day, Father's Day, birthdays, coaches, weddings and graduation. The gift cards are shipped to the school unless you specify to have them sent directly to your home or business. Every paper order received at the school office will go into a draw for prizes at the end of each month. Winner's will be announced in the Daily Informer. Thanks for your support!

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO ALL GRADE 12'S

Please ensure all fees and lost textbooks are paid up, and all library books returned by March 31 and complete your Grad Transitions as soon as possible in order to purchase Grad Tickets in May.

GRAD/SPIRIT WEAR

Deadline is February 28/2017. This is the last sale for this school year so don't miss out! Order on-line on the school website under Quick Links.

THE ENCHANTMENT PROJECT

The Enchantment Project is accepting gently used grad dresses from the last five years. If you have a daughter or sister that has graduated in the last five years with a floor length dress and she would like to donate the dress, please drop it off at any of these locations: CAFE, Gleneagle, Heritage Woods, Port Moody and Riverside Secondary – attention Youth Worker/Enchantment Project. Your donation will make sure that every deserving girl in the Tri-City area can attend her grad celebrations. Please contact Erin Watkins if you have any questions – ewatkins@sd43.bc.ca.

AFTER GRAD PUB NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Mark your calendars! Come support the After Grad Pub Night Fundraiser on Friday, March 31st at Mickey's Pub, 170 Golden Drive, Coquitlam, from 7:00 pm to 1:00 am. \$20.00 for a burger and fries and a drink. Tickets are available by sending an email to bestgrad2017@gmail.com.

EXTERNAL LISTINGS - posted on the [district public-facing website here](#).

[TransLink's 2017 Transit Network Review](#)

[Launch of Speakers' Speech Writing Contest](#)

[Centre for Equitable Library Access \(CELA\) services for educators and students](#)