



## School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

### M E M O R A N D U M

**TO:** District Administrators  
District Leadership Team  
SD43 Trustees  
Safe Schools Task Force

**FROM:** Julie Pearce, Assistant Superintendent, Co-Chair, Safe Schools Task Force  
Cindi Seddon, Co-Chair, Safe Schools Task Force

**DATE:** September 9, 2013

**RE: SAFE SCHOOLS TASK FORCE UPDATE**

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The purpose of this email is to:

- a) ask for your assistance distributing an important letter and invitation to all parents/guardians of SD43 students (see below) and;
- b) provide you with an update of the work of the Safe School Task Force, both short term and long term.

#### **For Action Immediately**

Attached you will find a letter representing the combined commitment from community agencies, cities, villages and the School District to keep our youth safe and unharmed in both our school communities and neighbourhoods. This letter is an outcome of the "Student Well Being Committee", formed on the recommendation of Kevin Cameron (Executive Director, Canadian Centre for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response) and in response to the number of at risk for self-harm students identified by both the district and our partner agencies. **We ask that you distribute the letter electronically or through a newsletter attachment by the end of the week.**

## **Invitation**

In addition to this correspondence to parents, we are pleased to inform you that Kevin Cameron (Executive Director, Canadian Centre for Threat Assessment and

Trauma Response) will be coming to Coquitlam for a series of three presentations to parents, educators and community members. The dates, as well as the series focus will be confirmed within the next week. Once these dates are confirmed, we will be distributing the invitation to parents and community members. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

## **Immediate work of the Safe Schools Task Force**

We have also contacted Teresa Campbell (Safe Schools Together and the Provincial ERASE Trainer) to work with the Safe Schools Task Force and community partners to prepare for the October 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Amanda Todd's death. Guidance and suggestions for school personnel supporting students during this difficult time and throughout the year will be made available to administrators, teachers, counselors and support staff.

## **Ongoing work for the Safe Schools Task Force**

The Safe Schools Task Force will be providing further information regarding opportunities to support your school's Social Emotional Learning initiatives, student surveys and student safety in general, as the year progresses.

## **For Additional Support**

Please note that it is important for school-based counsellors to attend the training in-service at the Gallery Room this Tuesday from 8:30 am to noon.

## **Finally**

We all share the responsibility for the safety of our children - parents, the school community, community agencies and government. Together we will make a difference and we are pleased to inform and include you in this work.