



THE CENTENNIAL SOURCE

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LEARNING PRINCIPLE #7 -

One of the greatest roadblocks to learning occurs in students when new material does not resonate or agree with prior knowledge and understanding. This dissonance can create frustration, misunderstanding and delay in acquiring new concepts. Hence the old phrase "You can't teach an old dog new tricks!"

Typically, such inconsistencies happen in science and math where unsophisticated or intuitive understandings are quite different from what is actually correct. However, such misconceptions also occur because of cultural and social experiences and overgeneralizations.

Teachers often need to work very deliberately to help students overcome understanding that is counterintuitive.

Teachers need to build carefully on the existing beliefs of students and lead them to more accurate understandings. Huge jumps in logic will lead to a lack of clarity and understanding. Real life examples, experiments and first-hand observations will solidify new concepts and the historical evolution of ideas will demonstrate to students that many very intelligent people had wrong assumptions well before they did.

Probably the most important thing teachers can do, and sometimes the aspect we forget to do most often, is to allow for enough time for new understanding. Therefore, teachers need to develop unit plans that focus on greater depth, and fewer topics to facilitate the acquisition of new concepts.

Many people think teaching is easy, or at least may think that most people can teach. The reality is that there are huge considerations to planning lessons, because every student comes in with beliefs, experiences and understandings, that are quite different. It really is amazing how well many of our students actually do. Teachers do make a difference.

Robert Zambrano
Principal

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IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, June 25

Friday, June 26

June 29 – July 3

July 6 – Aug. 28

Aug. 31 – Sep. 4

Tuesday, September 8

Friday September 25

Report Card Distribution

Administrative Day

Office hours will be 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

Office hours will be 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Office hours will be 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.

School Opens for the 2009/2010 School Year

District Pro-D Day

For a more detailed list of upcoming events and activities, please go to the Centennial School calendar at www.sd43.bc.ca/centennial

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

JUNE PROVINCIAL EXAM RESULTS AND GRADUATION DOCUMENTS

Provincial exam results will be posted on July 31 at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/. Students should create an account now to ensure that all information is correct before the results are posted. Graduating students will also receive an official transcript in the mail. Students who wish to rewrite examinations in August will need to check the same website for August exam centers and registration information. Please note, however, that August exam results will be too late to affect post-secondary entrance for September 2009.

STUDENT SCHEDULES AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All Centennial students will receive registration and school information in the mail in August. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 8.

SUMMER COUNSELLING

Counsellors will be in the school from Monday, August 31 to Thursday, September 3. On these dates, counsellors will register new students and reprogram students who attended summer school – there will not be appointments for course changes during this time. Please call us if you have questions or concerns.

COURSE CHANGE REQUESTS

Due to decreased enrolment and changes in the Ministry's class size and composition requirements, there is very limited space in the timetable. As a result, students are not likely to be able to change courses this year and there will be no course change appointments at the beginning of the school year. Please contact counsellors if you have extenuating circumstances requiring a course change and we will make every effort to try to help.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND/OR CONTACT INFORMATION

In order to ensure continued communication and safety, check documents sent by the school to ensure that your son's or daughter's counsellor has correct contact information. If you change any of this information during the school year, please contact the school with updates.

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING

Students entering Grade 12 in September should begin their post-secondary planning soon after the school year begins. College application workshops and our first financial aid information meetings are held in October. Advisors from post-secondary institutes will be visiting Centennial School on the morning of Wednesday, September 30 to provide information on admission and programs to students. SFU and UBC information sessions for students and parents will be held in the evening on Thursday, October 1.

COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT 2009-10

The counselling department will consist of four full-time counsellors. Mrs. Sharon Starr (sstarr@sd43.bc.ca), Mrs. Maria Thomas (mthomas@sd43.bc.ca), and Ms. Grace Morissette (gmorissette@sd43.bc.ca) will continue in their roles as counsellors at the school; Mr. Dave Ramsay will be returning to teaching and there will be another counselor, to be announced at a later date, in the department for September. Please feel free to contact counsellors any time that you have questions or concerns.

A good year for the library

The Centennial School Library remains a hub of activity as we wind up the 2008-09 school year. Again this year, between booked classes, lab users, and students studying independently, we averaged more than 900 student visits each day.

Despite continuing financial constraints, the administration maintained the library's materials budget, which enabled us to continue to build and renew the collection, add instructional video, and focus on our ESL collection which is under ever-increasing demand. Additional funding from the PAC allowed us to maintain our large selection of magazine subscriptions. Funding from the use of the library as TV set for the series *Psych*, allowed us to replace some of our curtains which had disintegrated in the sun.

Ms. Toy, our new teacher-librarian and an ESL teacher, supervised resource selection for the ESL collection, significantly expanding both fiction and non-fiction content.

Among several initiatives this year, the library purchased and promoted multiple copies of all the titles in this year's Stellar Book Award contest (B.C. books for teen readers judged by panels of teens). This year's winner, *The Droughtlanders* by Carrie Mac, is a book which had already been chosen at Centennial as an English Book Club selection.

The English Book Club continued to expand this year with the addition of new titles, reaching 55 in total. The book club is a joint initiative of the library and the English department. The library purchases six copies of recommended titles to be used by English students in reading circles. This is an alternative to the traditional class novel approach, allowing students a wide range of choice in novel study and making it much easier to introduce new novels. Book Club titles are available to all students—not just those currently doing a novel study in English. From the library’s perspective, the book club has been a huge success, with three book club selections ranking among our top five most circulated novels this year.

This school year, the library circulated more than 10,000 items, and added numerous online offerings including the World Book online. To access online databases and encyclopaedias from home 24/7, registered students must use passwords and usernames which can be found on the library portal page (under the Resources tab on the school homepage). Be sure to click the small “Sign In” button in the upper right corner of the page.

We encourage all students to visit the library frequently, check out the New Books shelves, our 60-title strong magazine rack, and our constantly-changing contests and displays. As always, our goal is to make the Centennial Library a welcoming, quiet, and richly-resourced place of study. Have a great summer!

Mr. Salembier, Teacher-Librarian



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Space is limited, secure your spot today!



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380 Montgomery Street, Coquitlam, 604 936 4261

4444-3 Word 2007 L1 July 7&8
4445-3 Word 2007 L2 July 14&15
4446-3 Excel 2007 L1 July 21&22
4447-3 Excel 2007 L2 July 28&29

Feed your summer brain!

For more information or to register call: **604 936 4261**
www.sd43.bc.ca

MUSIC NOTES

SPORTS

SENIOR GIRLS SOCCER

The Senior girls had another outstanding season finishing 6th at the Provincial championships. The team amassed a 19 win, 6 loss, 1 draw record which included our fourth straight Fraser Valley North league title and third place in the Fraser Valley playoffs. The squad overcame injuries and adversity to raise their game when it was needed most.

Award winners: MVP: Elise Horton & Dayna Naismyth; Ms. Hustle & BC's All-Star: Kristen Santema; Most Improved: Amanda Mueller; Unsung Hero: Leanna Cutri & Mel Pospischil; Top Defender: Kianna Leung; Rookie of the Year: Gina Fabbro & Aliya Boulanger.

A special thanks to our graduating seniors who have contributed so much over the last few seasons: Kristen Santema, Elise Horton, Leanna Cutri, Brooke Wilson, Dayna Naismyth, Jessica Jaksa, Mel Pospischil, Amanda Mueller and Katie Dale. Best wishes with your future endeavors.