



550 Poirier Street, Coquitlam, British Columbia V3J 6A7 ● Phone 604-939-9201 ● Fax: 604-939-7828

September 8, 2016

Welcome back!

I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer and are looking forward to the 2016-2017 school year. The start of a new school year is always exciting and filled with promise and optimism. For those who are new to our district, we extend a warm and friendly welcome. This year promises to be especially inspiring with an emphasis on individual engagement and personalized learning.

We look forward to many positive opportunities. The redesigned curriculum implementation for K-9 and drafts for 10-12 along with the elimination of provincial exams (except Grade 12 Language Arts) highlight the changes that will be most noticed by those in the classrooms. Projects that we will be implementing include new processes for student progress reporting, technology initiatives such as high speed internet and enhanced websites, continuing capital projects that will include the opening of the new Centennial Secondary School, increasing engagement in international initiatives, and our collective vision to guide us over the coming years.

Our Board of Education has been working with our District Leadership Team to develop and integrate key goals and objectives to fulfill our vision for *Learning Without Boundaries*. Our focus is on advancing our school district forward in terms of achieving student success, enhancing learning through technology, and fostering a sustainable organization.

Our school district has been committed to the principles of creating a culture of care and shared responsibility where every learner matters; engaging and empowering lifelong learners; providing flexible integrated, diverse and active learning environments; and developing shared leadership through innovative, sustainable professional learning. By collaborating together, we will continue to advance our school district based on these fundamental principles.

We look forward to working collaboratively to build upon the world-class education system that School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) consistently provides to the communities we serve.

I would like to thank all our principals and vice-principals, teachers, support staff, and managers for working hard over the summer to prepare our 70 schools for the return of our 32,000 students. I also thank everyone for continued efforts and dedication to making our school district the very best for all students.

I wish you all a successful and fulfilling school year.

Sincerely,

Patricia Gartland
Superintendent of Schools
School District No.43 (Coquitlam)