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September 8, 2014

TEACHERS' STRIKE UPDATE

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

There has been a great deal of media coverage about the ongoing teachers' strike and possible paths to a timely resolution.

Many parents, students and staff who have followed the news may have questions regarding these recent developments and their impact on a return to our school year.

This weekend the Minister of Education and his bargaining representatives declined binding arbitration at this time. We understand that the parties have suspended bargaining as they each seek to regroup and define further proposals for a resolution.

Your School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) Board of Education and senior staff team understand that this is a difficult time for everyone. We remain committed to sharing timely and accurate information.

Schools remain unable to offer educational programs at this time and until further notice.

For additional information, please visit:

BC Ministry of Education Newsroom: http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/ministries/education/

BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA): http://bcpsea.bc.ca/

BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF): http://bctf.ca/

Coquitlam Teachers' Association (CTA): http://www.coquitlamteachers.com/

If you wish to contact the Minister of Education, your local MLA, or the BCTF to express your thoughts and concerns please review the following:

Minister of Education Peter Fassbender Minister.Educ@gov.bc.ca

MLA Mike Farnworth, Port Coquitlam <u>mike.farnworth.mla@leg.bc.ca</u>

MLA Douglas Horne, Coquitlam-Burke Mtn douglas.horne.mla@leg.bc.ca

MLA Linda Reimer, Port Moody-Coquitlam linda.reimer.mla@leg.bc.ca

MLA Selina Robinson, Coquitlam-Maillardville <u>Selina.robinson.mla@leg.bc.ca</u>

BC Teachers' Federation President Jim Iker <u>presidentsoffice@bctf.ca</u>

Again thanks for your cooperation and your patience.

Sincerely,

Tom Grant, Superintendent

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SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (Coquitlam)

cc: Board of Education

Coquitlam District Parent Advisory Council

Coquitlam Teachers' Association

CUPE Local 561