



Learning for a Lifetime

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May 2017

Dear Grade 12 Students and Parents/Guardians of Grade 12 Students:

The month of June is approaching and the time for celebrating our students' accomplishments will soon be upon us. For the past thirteen years, students have cultivated their reputations by putting efforts into academic endeavors, philanthropic pursuits and gaining insight and experience in workplace initiatives. Students, in conjunction with their schools, teachers and parents, are working harder than ever to prepare for today's complex world. We look forward to being a part of the wonderful celebrations taking place this month and we ask that you share in the responsibility to guide our graduates to engage in safe, socially responsible manners of celebrating.

In years' past, there has been a small faction of students who have compromised their reputations and participated in a range of disruptive offences they have viewed as "pranks". However, the impact of these acts on schools, the community and the individuals themselves, has been highly negative. Unfortunately, students who participate in these offences, have found themselves facing criminal charges and/or school based consequences such as the loss of graduation celebration privileges. This has significantly impacted grads and their families. The Board of Education expects graduating students and their families to ensure that students conclude their School District No. 43 education on a positive note which seeks to enhance - not damage - the reputations they have cultivated and which will follow them into adulthood.

The Board supports secondary school principals and staffs in their efforts to ensure that graduation celebrations are positive and respectful. Please help us to work with our graduates by having guiding conversations that seek to commend grads' positive life choices and steer them away from decisions and choices that might lead to regrets and/or negative consequences.

We are certain we have your support in making Grad 2017 safe, enjoyable and a true celebration of the talents and achievements of our 2017 Grads.

Yours truly,
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)

Kerri Palmer Isaak, Chair
Board of Education

c: Board of Education
Patricia Gartland, Superintendent
Chris Nicolls, Acting Secretary-Treasurer