



# Dr. Charles Best Secondary Newsletter

## Issue #12 – February 9, 2024

2525 Como Lake Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3J 3R8 604-461-5581

Website: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/charlesbest/Pages/default.aspx>

**Principal – Heather Murphy**

**Vice-Principals – Michelle Ciolfitto, Kelly Fridge, and Michael Viveiros**

*Our school goal is to develop a culture of connectedness and belonging within the school, among school staff, students, and our parent community, in order to enhance opportunities for collaborative partnerships.*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday, February 1-Friday, March 2**

50/50 Raffle open (see flyer below)

**Monday, February 12**

Photo Catchup Day (new students and Grad headshots)

**Tuesday, February 13**

Grade 9-11 Parent Programming Info. Night (7pm Library)

**Friday, February 16**

Grade 9 Immunizations Alpha T-Z/any student who missed Feb. 9

Grade 10 students with signed consent forms who missed immunizations in Grade 9

Grade 10 students who are unsure if they are up to date with their immunizations (Fraser Health will assist on site)

**Monday, February 19**

Family Day Statutory Holiday – No School

**Thursday, February 22**

Last day to sign up for AP exams

**Friday, February 23**

District Pro-D Day – Students do not attend

**Friday, March 1**

Grade 9 Immunizations Alpha T-Z/any student who missed Feb. 9/16

Grade 10 students with signed consent forms who missed immunizations in Grade 9

Grade 10 students who are unsure if they are up to date with their immunizations (Fraser Health will assist on site)



### STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY 2024

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size, and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in **2024** the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 10, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province. The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at [http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey). Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link **without a logon code by selecting the school district and school name** where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

**The e-survey site will be open until April 29<sup>th</sup>.** If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Ciolfitto, Vice Principal at Dr Charles Best Secondary [mciofitto@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:mciofitto@sd43.bc.ca).

### BUS DRIVERS WANTED (WITH AN HONORARIUM)

From time to time need the school requires a bus driver to transport students for various excursions like field trips, athletic games, music trips, and other student activities. Renting buses with drivers can be quite expensive, and the demand to secure such transportation can be difficult during peak times. As such, we sometimes arrange to use one of the District's secondary school buses when available, and then we secure a bus driver to transport the students. This is typically a more cost-effective method to ensure our students can have experiences they otherwise may not be able to enjoy.

We are looking for any qualified drivers (with a Class 2 License) to be called upon from time to time to drive a school bus, and to assist with the transport of students at our schools. The volunteer driver can be paid an honorarium, and trips are typically booked well in advance. Drivers typically pick up a bus from the designated secondary school, provide the transportation to students at the school for which they have been reserved, and then return the bus to the secondary school when they have finished. All volunteer drivers must be approved by the principal, must fill out a District Volunteer Driver Form, must complete a Police Information Check and provide a Driver's Abstract from ICBC to the school. Drivers can limit their driving to the school of their choice but can also make themselves available to other schools if they wish.

If you are interested in supporting our students, please contact Principal Heather Murphy for more information. [hmurphy@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:hmurphy@sd43.bc.ca)

## PHOTO DAY - NEW STUDENTS TO DR. CHARLES BEST/APPLICABLE GRADE 12'S

Artona will be on site the morning of **Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>** during blocks 1 and 2 to take photos of the following groups:

- New students to Dr. Charles Best who started after the fall photo days.
- Grade 12's needing a grad headshot photo for the yearbook/composite and are **NOT** purchasing Grad photos.  
**\*\* Only those students who have not yet been photographed by Artona will be permitted to have their photo taken.**

## GRAD PHOTOS/RETAKES FEB 23/24

These dates are open to all Grade 12's who are purchasing Grad photos and have yet to be photographed.

Any Grad who requires a retake can also book on these dates. Location: Burnaby Central Secondary School

Use this link to book: <https://www.artona.com/schools/BEST/programs/graduation>

\*\*Graduates can also contact Artona Customer Service at 604-872-7272 to book alternate dates at their Burnaby or Vancouver Studios.

## SPIRIT WEAR ORDERS ARE IN

If you ordered Spirit Wear and didn't pick it up today, you can pick it up Monday between 3-3:30pm in the front lobby.

## 2024-2025 COURSE PROGRAMMING IN MYED

Counsellors have made their presentations to current Grade 9-11 students and students have been instructed to make their course selections in their MYED portals. Grade 9/10's please complete **by Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**.

Grade 11's please complete **by Friday, March 1**.

Grade 11's are also required to make an appointment with their Counsellor **from Feb. 12-Feb 22**. The link to appointments is being emailed Grade 11 students and parents today.

## GRADE 9 – 11 PARENT PROGRAMMING INFORMATION NIGHT

Parents, please join Counsellors on **Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00pm in the Charles Best Library

The presentation will take about an hour and will be discussing course selection and online programming for current Grade 9-11 students for the 2024-2025 school year.

## AP EXAMS

Any students who still want to sign up for AP Exams, please see Mrs. John in the Counselling office **by February 22, 2024**.

## SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB

The 2023-2024 Ski and Snowboard club had

another great day on the slopes in Whistler at the end of January despite challenging conditions.

The club has one more day booked in Whistler on March 15th.



## JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL

The junior girls played their best games over the last three days, which was the perfect time to peak. They showed heart, grit, and determination. Last night we played a tough Centennial team, whom we have played three times before losing each game by 20+. The girls gave it their all-last night, unfortunately, we came up a bit short losing 48-43 which ended our season. The girls learned a lot this year, and I was very pleased by their progress. Continue to work on your game ladies! Let's come back next year even stronger.

## PAC CORNER

There is no PAC meeting scheduled in February. The next meeting will take place on **Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm in the school library. All parents are welcome!

**Did you know?** You can **DONATE TO THE PAC ONLINE!**

Parent donations to the Charles Best PAC help to support various aspects of your student's educational experience. Each year, the PAC provides much-needed funds to support activities such as extracurricular clubs, After Grad, teacher appreciation, and student scholarships. Login to your student's portal on the School CashOnline system to make your PAC donation today!

## **CAREER CENTRE NEWS - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STUDENTS:**

### **GARDEN VOLUNTEERS FOR THE DOGWOOD GARDENS**

The Fraser Pacific Rose Society is looking to pair up students with an experienced rosarian to show them how to care for the roses during their yearly cycle. Garden tools will be available for you to use. There's an in-garden workshop held in conjunction with the City of Coquitlam's Park Spark program to learn how to "Wake up the roses". **Sat, March 23**, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. The volunteer commitment runs from April to November, 1-3 hours on Saturday mornings.

[More info here.](#)

### **RAINFOREST ADVENTURE CAMPS**

seeking volunteers for their spring break camps. Must be patient, kind, fun and enjoying working with kids.

**Starting March 18**, shifts are flexible and can be worked around your schedule. Must be 13+. A Criminal Record Check is required for those ages 16+.

### **FESTIVAL DU BOIS**

is looking for volunteers, age 15+, who want to contribute to the francophone community. Volunteer opportunities include site decoration, parking, green team, tickets sales, and more. **Happening March 8-11**. [Sign up here.](#)

### **YOUTH4ACTION LEADERSHIP BOOT-CAMP**

Spring Break opportunity for high school students who are passionate about learning, leadership, and taking action to protect the health of our region, local waterways, and oceans. **Mon-Wed, March 18-20**, 9 am - 3.30 pm. Explore how residents are connected to, and dependent upon, healthy waterways and oceans through their daily lives and choices. Discover how technology, innovation, planned facility updates, and unique career paths combine to provide liquid waste services to protect the health of our region.

Learn about Metro Vancouver's Liquid Waste Management Plan, and much more. [Sign up.](#)

### **VENTURENG: ENVISIONING STEM DREAMS**

Students in grades 10-12 can join for a day's worth of exploration in what entrepreneurship in STEM fields looks like. What is a real-world issue you are inspired to address? You will work with mentors to ideate a STEM-based venture solution and will participate in rapid-fire pitching rounds as you compete for the best pitch of the day.

**Sat, March 16**, 10 am – 3 pm, SFU campus. [More info.](#)

### **CAMP IGNITE**

Camp Ignite is a three-night, three-day camp (August 8-11) that educates and inspires young women to follow their dreams. The camp is open to girls in grades 11-12 living in British Columbia and offers an introduction to the exciting world of firefighting, along with fitness, nutrition, health and teamwork. [Apply here](#) by **May 1**.

## **POST SECONDARY**

### **UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA - APPLICATION DEADLINES EXTENDED**

UVic is still accepting undergraduate applications for September 2024 for most programs. Students should check [EducationPlannerBC](#) to see if their program is still open. They are encouraged to apply as soon as possible as applications can close without notice. Applicants with an admission average above 90% will be eligible to receive a UVic Entrance Scholarship valued between \$2,000 and \$4,000. International applicants applying from high schools in Canada with an admission average of 85% or higher are eligible for a University of Victoria International Entrance Scholarship valued at \$10,000.

### **TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY**

We'll be hosting a TWU recruiter in the foyer on **Tuesday, February 20th**, after school. Applications for their programs are still open and students are encouraged to stop by with any questions. Trinity's most popular programs are probably Nursing and Kinesiology, but there are [many other options](#) for you to explore.

## **SCHOLARSHIP/AWARD OPPORTUNITIES**

### **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2024 GRADS**

Right now is a great time to apply to scholarships. Check out the [Career Centre website](#) to find a long list of awards that are currently accepting applications. It might be a good idea to also check with your employer, union, insurance company, bank institution, the student's sports teams, etc. to find out if they are offering scholarships or bursaries.

### **CHARLES BEST INTERNAL SCHOLARSHIP PACKAGE**

Grade 12 students who missed this week's scholarship meeting can find the meeting slides, link to the online application and further information on the Career Centre team (code gvrymg1). Our [scholarship directory](#) provides an overview of our internally offered scholarships/ bursaries as well as those exclusively offered to SD43 students.

**Deadline is April 5<sup>th</sup>**, 3 pm. Any questions, please contact our Post-Secondary & Career Advisor at

[skaufmann@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:skaufmann@sd43.bc.ca)



## **YOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

The Ministry of Education and Child Care, in partnership with adolescent Clinical Psychologist, Dr. Hayley Watson, will be hosting free virtual sessions on youth substance use for parents/guardians, caregivers and caring adults. Dr. Watson will provide valuable insights, practical tips, and resources to equip participants with the tools needed to guide their children and youth toward making positive choices when it comes to substance use.

Key Takeaways for Participants:

- Learn why children/teenagers are drawn to substances.
- Understand what causes and maintains substance use disorder and needs.
- Increase your child's ability to make positive choices about substances.
- Acquire practical conversation tools for discussing substances in the home.

Participants must register in advance due to limited capacity. Session dates are:

- February 20, 6:00 – 7:30 pm PST - [Click here to Register](#)
- February 22, 6:00 – 7:30 pm PST - [Click here to Register](#)
- February 28, 6:00 – 7:30 pm PST - [Click here to Register](#)

Email [educ.mentalhealth@gov.bc.ca](mailto:educ.mentalhealth@gov.bc.ca) with any questions.

Sincerely,

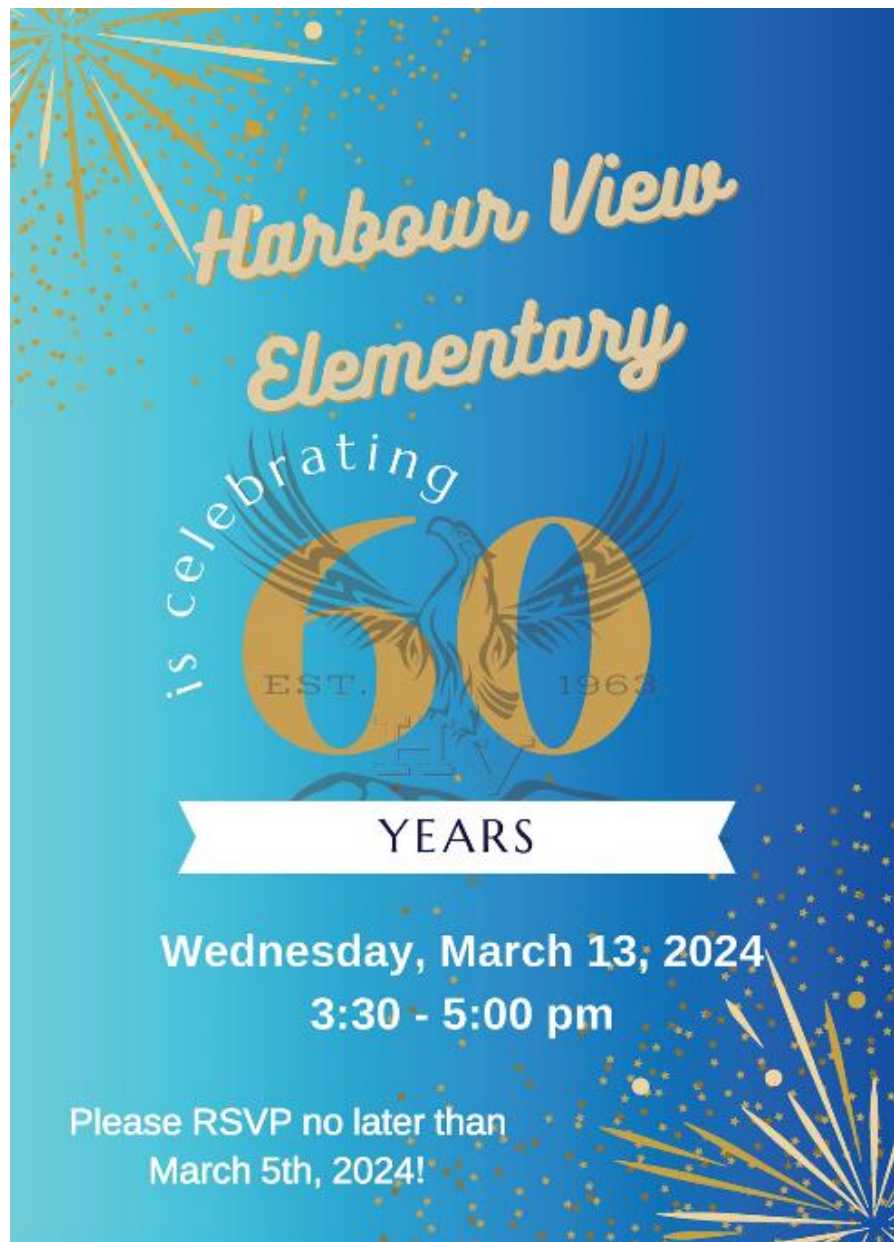
Mental Health and Substance Use Branch

System Liaison and Supports Division


BC Ministry of Education and Child Care

## **HARBOUR VIEW ELEMENTARY IS 60!**

[Click here to RSVP](#)



## AFTERGRAD FUNDRAISING




# 50/50 RAFFLE




All proceeds go towards subsidizing the cost  
of graduation activities for the:  
**Class of 2024**  
**Dr. Charles Best Secondary**

**Thank you for supporting our online  
After Grad fundraiser**



**Charles Best**  
Hey supporters! Have you checked out our upcoming fundraiser? We would be thrilled if you could help us share our story and increase our impact. Check it out!

**Start date: Feb 1st**  
**Draw date: March 2nd**



<https://trellis.org/charles-best>



## Dr. Charles Best Secondary Easter 2024 After-grad Fundraiser

Order Deadline March 3rd

Order Pick up March 15th between 2-5 pm

Link to order form: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1929560-116504>



## PARENT DANCE MARCH 9, 2024

The countdown is on!

### **There are only 8 DAYS until our early bird sale ends.**

After February 16, the ticket price for our Las Vegas-inspired Dinner Dance Fundraiser goes up \$10 per ticket.

This legendary event at the Dr. Charles Best Secondary school gym typically sells out each year. 🏃  
So don't wait, act now.

Visit our [EVENT PAGE](#) to buy tickets and then get your dancing shoes on and come out and have fun supporting the Grads of 2025!

