

Dr. Charles Best Secondary

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

Principal – Carol Coulson, Vice-Principals – Rob Lederer, Sharon McKay and Anita Young



Best Vibrations Newsletter – Discover Your Best

November 30, 2017: Issue No. 4

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.

HIGHLIGHTS

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The first formal report cards were distributed in Advisory last Thursday and many students are academically off to a great start and are receiving positive work-habit comments. Excellent attendance and a strong work ethic are keys to academic success. The majority of the report cards were picked up by students but a number of them are still in the office waiting to be picked up. If you have not yet seen your child's report card, please direct them to the office to pick it up if they haven't already done so. Photo packages not yet picked up and overdue fees and lost textbook statements were also distributed last week with the report cards. Attached to this newsletter is a draft list of our "Super G" students who have demonstrated good work habits in all four or more of their courses. Honour Roll recipients will be identified at the end of the semester.

What a month it has been for athletics with many of our teams qualifying to compete in Provincial Championships. Our Senior Boys Soccer team won the AAA Soccer Provincial Championships and the Junior Boys Soccer team won the Fraser Valley Championship. The Girls Field Hockey team finished eleventh at the BCs held in Richmond. Our Cross Country team qualified runners for the BCs and the Swim team qualified eight athletes and brought home a number of medals. With our winter sports of basketball, wrestling, lacrosse and badminton now starting up, we anticipate our athletes will be working hard to "discover their best" throughout their seasons. And let's not forget the fans, who have been turning out in increasing numbers at our games. The players really appreciate the support they get from their families and fellow students.

Our Best staff and students have engaged in a host of leadership activities and community-involvement projects over the past month. Initiatives included: our tenth Holocaust Symposium, organized by Mr. Ipe; and an impactful and moving Remembrance Day Assembly, organized by Mme. Bruneau. Our counsellors organized a post-secondary information event for the grade 11s and 12s, providing them the opportunity to communicate with advisors from most of the post-secondary institutions in the province. Our grade 9 students participated in the "Take Our Kids to Work Day." We are looking forward to the annual Christmas Talent Show set for the afternoon of December 22. This has been a Best tradition to finish off the year and to showcase student and staff talent. Mr. Case and his actors have just finished a five evening run of performances, including a series of one act plays by the Theatre 12 students and "A Marriage Proposal" that they will be performing on December 2 at Metfest. Our music students will be performing their Christmas Music Concert on December 13. Thank you for your ongoing support of our students. We hope to continue to see you at the events.

I would also like to congratulate Mr. Jiwa (French Immersion) on his retirement and Mr. Lederer (Vice Principal), who recently announced his retirement for the end of January. We also welcome Mrs. McKay, our new vice principal, to Best. Her September arrival was delayed and we thank Mr. Jones for temporarily filling in for her.

Carol Coulson
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

December 1

Grade 9 Immunization

December 4

PAC Meeting 7pm

December 8

Grade 9 Immunization – Catch Up

December 13

Christmas Music Concert 7pm

December 22

Talent Show 1pm

Last Day of School Before Winter Break

December 23 – January 7

Winter Break (All Schools Closed)

January 8

School Reopens

PAC Meeting 7pm

January 16

Evening of the Arts 7pm

January 25

Grade 8 Parent Information Evening

Tour 6:30pm, Presentation 7pm

January 26

Grade 8 Walk-About

January 27

After Grad Pub Night Fundraiser

January 29

School Based Pro-D (students do not attend)

January 30

Semester 2 begins

WHAT'S COMING UP?

DECEMBER 1-12 - LEADERSHIP'S TOY DRIVE

Would you like a chance to be Santa this year? Make your wish come true by participating in one of Canada's largest toy drives. This year the leadership class will be collecting new unwrapped toys for the Lower Mainland Christmas Bureau. Toys can be donated in your Block 1 class from November 29 – December 12. Help us reach our goal of filling an entire school bus with toys to give kids a Christmas to remember!

DECEMBER 3 - Project H.E.L.L.O

On Sunday, December 3, students in our Project H.E.L.L.O club (Helping Everyone Find Loved Ones) will be going to Vancouver's downtown eastside to write Christmas cards for the homeless. Through this process, students have conversations with each individual and gather as much information about where their loved one lives and to which they would like to send a special message. The club members then return to school and use social media and the internet to find the addresses of their loved one and send the card off! The club meets every Tuesday after school.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

ENCOURAGING TECHNOLOGY

This summer, Dr. Charles Best bought 30 new student laptops to support and encourage technology in the classroom. The laptops are divided into two carts and are being used daily in a range of classes. In science, the computers are being used to analyze video, collect data and document labs. We are seeing more and more students bringing their own computers to support their learning. Next year, all students in Grade 9 will be encouraged to bring in their own devices as we move towards our goal of one-to-one.



WOODWORKING

Tiffany Seol and Makayla Gallo of Mr. House's woodworking class show off their beautiful cutting boards. Tiffany used black walnut and Makayla used Purple Heart, Black Walnut and Eastern Maple.



TEXTILES 9 AND 11

The Textiles 9 and 11 classes have been sewing projects for the students at Heart to Heart Haiti, a school and orphanage in Grande Goave, Haiti. They've made a variety of projects over the years, and this year, they made bucket hats. Students personalized their work with their choice of fabric and trimmings for the children's hats. Here are a few examples of their handiwork.



REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

On Thursday, November 9, Dr. Charles Best honoured 7 local veterans for their service to Canada. Bob Sutherland spoke about each veteran and the medals that they have been awarded. Thank you to Corporal David Ward and Ms. Leslie who also spoke about their personal connection to military service. We would like to thank all the students who took part in this special ceremony; these include: all of the 26 students in Mr. Hugh's Jazz choir who gifted us with their music, Mr. Case's stage craft crew for the set up of sound and lighting, Mr. Raabe and his leadership class for taking care of the setup of the stage and chairs, the flower presentations, thank you cards, greeting the vets, purchasing and setting up refreshments in the staff room, gym set up and take down, tweaking and working the power points during the assembly; all the students from the English tract, French Immersion, International Ed, and skill development that volunteered to be poetry readers and flower presenters, and to Mr. Morris' students for photographing and videoing the event. A very special shout out to Heeva and Sevda for their role as Master of Ceremonies, for Coloe Cady for singing the anthem, Daniel Deng for playing the last post, Roger Lye for piping our guests in, and Audrey Heath and Nicole Bell who represent our Aboriginal youth leaders. The vets were greeted and brought to our Honour Wall which displayed their photos when they were younger. They also took part in a "Meet and Greet" session with grade 12 students after the ceremony. We should all feel proud that our veterans and their wives left the school feeling honoured and respected.



BEST PLAYERS - METFEST

The Best Players had a wonderful time this year with our fall one act festival, titled, "*Till Wealth Do Us Part*", featuring *The Government Inspector*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Picnic on the Battlefield*, *A Marriage Proposal*, *The Bear*, *Too Late for Happiness*, and *The Drowned Woman*. Best's one act festival alternated evening performances; meaning that, in a *Forrest Gump* sense, every night was "like a box of chocolates" because you were never quite sure what you were going to get. Ultimately, after five unique nights of good theatre, people walked away smiling. Our tradition continues here at Best and closing out 2017, witnesses new groups of engaged enthusiastic students, the bedrock of this school's performance arts program, passionately and diligently, planning our spring production. Student ownership of their learning is our conceit. Their energy for learning and passion for their community is inspiring. As our audience, you support their efforts, and I can honestly say they are definitely worth the price of admission. See you all in the spring.

ATHLETICS

SENIOR BOYS SOCCER TEAM ARE THE PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONS!!!



Last weekend the senior boys soccer team made history becoming only the third school to win the High School Championship for a fifth year since 1970. The boys entered the tournament on a low after losing the Fraser Valley Championship to Panarama Secondary 3-0. It was a tough loss for the boys but one that fueled their desire to win. In round robin play the boys defeated Kitsilano 6-1, followed by a 3-0 victory over Mount Baker of the Kootneys, and then a 1-1 draw with Sentinel from the North Shore. The boys then played Reynolds from Vancouver Island (defending Provincial Champions) in the semi finals and beat them 3-1. The final was a rematch of the Fraser

Valley Championship and the boys played a strong passionate game that saw them take the final 2-1. Quin Desaulniers was named tournament MVP, Golden Boot winner, and Commissioner's 11 pick. Hard work, respect, humility and skill combined with an unmatched team unity characterized this great group of boys. Congratulations for a great season!

JUNIOR BOYS SOCCER

Our junior boys' soccer team captured the Fraser Valley Championship title on November 9 with a 2-1 win in the finals over Lord Tweedsmuir of Cloverdale. The team also placed first in their North Zone league, which consisted of a balance of grade 9 and 10 students. Coach Napoletano was very pleased and impressed with the boy's awesome display of team chemistry and sportsmanship, great talent and speed, and their amazing desire and heart to win. Their parents, coach, and the Charles Best staff and students are very proud of their accomplishments. Congratulations junior boys!



SWIM TEAM

Eight of our swimmers qualified for swim provincials this year and seven of them made it through the heats on Friday to qualify for finals on Saturday. In finals, five of those swimmers ended up medaling! Our mixed medley relay team won bronze and our mixed free relay won silver. Each relay had a junior swimmer on it (Zach Lillico for the backstroke in the medley and Tim Baker for the free). The other three, Emily Trepanier, Jay Cho and Sarah Luo, all seniors, swam for both relays and came home with both medals. Special mention to Emily Trepanier, who, because of the way events were scheduled, had to swim three events in a row--testing leg and lung power to the ultimate!

GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

The field hockey team enjoyed another very successful season. Besides tournament play, the team won eleven games, tied one and lost five. They finished 2nd in the district, 3rd in the Fraser Valley and concluded the season with a very respectable 11th in the Province. The team entered the Provincial tournament ranked 12th and were pleased to better their predicted placement. Coaches Coulson, Jenkins and Sinclair would like to recognize our eight graduating seniors and wish them all the best in the future. They are: Alex Darts, Emily Davis, Kaitlyn Daly, Lauren Schneider, Liana Barzal, Madeline Rindahl, Shannon Lo and Shayla Turner.

INFORMATION

STAFF CHANGES

After 38 years with School District 43, Mr. Alnoor Jiwa has decided to retire. Of course, it is with mixed feelings that we say goodbye; while we wish him well in his retirement, we know that Mr. Jiwa will be dearly missed by staff, students, and parents.



We would also like to wish Vice-Principal Mr. Robert Lederer well as he will also be retiring at the end of this semester. Mr. Lederer has enjoyed a lengthy career with the Coquitlam School District and is looking forward to enjoying a more relaxed pace in the new year.

We would also like to welcome our new Vice-Principal, Mrs. Sharon McKay, as she joins the staff at Dr. Charles Best Secondary. Mrs. McKay was scheduled to arrive in September but was needed at another school site temporarily and has finally be re-assigned back to Best. We are delighted to have her join our team!



ABSENCE REPORTING

Attendance is a critical factor in student success in school. We support, encourage, and value good attendance from all of our students. We understand that there are times when students are too sick to attend school and/or have specialized appointments scheduled during the school day. Please contact the school if your son or daughter is unable to attend one or more classes on any given day. You may call the school directly or you may complete an absence report that is available on our school website. Please note that use of our absence report email system is intended for **parent use only**. Students are not permitted to use the absence report to excuse their own absences. Any students caught doing so will be required to attend a meeting with parents and the school administration in order to determine appropriate consequences.

REPORT CARDS

Please note that report cards were distributed to students on Thursday, November 23 during Advisory. This is a great opportunity to have a conversation with your son or daughter about their progress in their Semester 1 classes. If you did not receive a copy of your son/daughter's report card, please feel free to contact the main office and we can assist you.

HONOUR ROLL

Just a reminder that with report cards just out, we are posting our Super G Honour Roll in the hallway just outside our Career Centre. Students must achieve a G work habit standing in every course in order to be included in this Honour Roll standing. Please note that our Honour Roll based on student academic standing will be posted twice annually, once at the end of Semester 1 as final grades are calculated, and once at the end of April.

NUMERACY ASSESSMENT

As you are likely aware, the Ministry of Education has developed a new Numeracy Assessment that will be administered in BC Schools in January of this school year. This assessment is required for graduation and all students at Best currently enrolled in a grade 10 or 11 Math course have been registered to write the exam. Grade 10 students will write the exam on Tuesday, January 23 and grade 11 students will write the exam on Wednesday, January 24. Specific information regarding exam times will be provided to students in January, upon return from holidays. Parents and students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Numeracy Assessment by viewing the links available on the new curriculum webpage: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>. This link will take you to the 'What's New' feature that includes a numeracy assessment sample, the numeracy design specifications, and the numeracy scoring guide and student exemplars.

TAKE YOUR KIDS TO WORK

We hope that Take Your Kids to Work Day was a positive and productive learning opportunity for your son/daughter. Participation in this day, along with the completion of a related assignment, fulfills part of the Career Education component of a student's grade 9 program. Please check with your son/daughter to ensure they have submitted their assignment. For students who have not yet done so, please submit your assignment to the Main Office by Friday, December 8.

PROPOSED SPRING BREAK 2019 FRANCE TRIP

A school trip was proposed for a French Immersion trip to France during Spring Break of March 2019. Mr. Jiwa was to be the teacher in charge of this proposed trip, but he has since confirmed his retirement plans for the end of this calendar year. As such, this specific trip will not run and deposit cheques will be refunded or returned. There may be a different trip opportunity for students during this same time but as of now, there are no confirmed plans. We would like to thank Mr. Jiwa for his many years of service in the district and at Dr. Charles Best Secondary and wish him all the best for his retirement.

CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS FOR EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

In the case of extreme weather conditions such as ice, wind and/or excessive snowfall, the Superintendent of Schools has authority on behalf of the Board, to temporarily close a school. As a general expectation, parents should assume that schools are open. If parents believe the local conditions are unsafe, they should keep their child at home or arrange his/her early dismissal. If schools are to be closed before morning classes begin, an announcement will be made on local radio stations CKNW (980), CKWX (1130) and CBC (690) by 7:30 am if possible, and it will be posted on the district website (be sure to hit refresh to get the latest notices).

SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2018 – END OF SEMESTER

- As part of the learning outcomes for Career Education 9, attendance is mandatory for all grade 9 students for the presentation on Monday, January 22. The presentation will be very engaging and attendance will be taken.
- The Provincial Numeracy Exam begins in January 2018 and is mandatory for graduation for students presently in grades 10 and 11 who have not previously written a Math 10 Provincial exam. All students taking a Math 10 or 11 course in semester one will write the exam in January. Students taking a math 10 or 11 course in semester 2 will write the Numeracy exam in June.
- Grade 12 students not writing the English 12 Provincial exam in January are expected to complete their GT Exit Interview on Thursday, January 25.
- Teachers will be available by appointment for tutorial sessions as indicated below.

Monday, January 15 <i>Regular Day</i>	Tuesday, January 16 <i>Regular Day</i>	Wednesday, January 17 <i>Regular Day</i>	Thursday, January 18 <i>Regular Day</i>	Friday, January 19 <i>Last Day of Regular Classes for Semester One</i>
Monday, January 22 9's CE Presentation 10:45-12:00 (all grade 9's to attend) <i>Open Tutorials</i>	Tuesday, January 23 Numeracy Exam for Grade 10's (am and pm sessions) <i>Open Tutorials</i>	Wednesday, January 24 Numeracy Exam for Grade 11's (am and pm sessions) <i>Open Tutorials</i>	Thursday, January 25 ENG 12 (9am) GT – Exit interviews <i>Open Tutorials</i>	Friday, January 26 Grade 8 Walkabout COMM 12 (9am) FRAL 12 (1pm)
Monday, January 29 <i>School Pro-D Day</i>	Tuesday, January 30 Semester 2 begins <i>Regular Day</i>	Wednesday, January 31	Thursday, February 1 Report Cards home	Friday, February 2

GRAD CORNER

GRADUATION 2017/18 DOGWOOD PLANNER

The Ministry of Education has released the 2017/2018 Dogwood Planner, an annual document published for BC secondary students that answers common questions students may have as they approach graduation. The Dogwood Planner is a companion document to the 2017/18 Grad Planner, which was released earlier this year.

Dogwood Planner: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/support/graduation/bc_dogwood_planner_eng.pdf

Grad Planner: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/support/grad_planner.pdf

MONTHLY CHECKLIST – December 2017

- CHECK** post-secondary school application deadlines. Deadlines vary between Institutions and programs. Some programs have earlier admission deadlines.
- Apply for SFU Entrance Scholarships if you have a min. 90% avg. Applications are on-line at www.students.sfu.ca/entrancescholarships/. Deadline is Feb 28.
- Apply to Eastern Canadian universities now!
- If you plan to go to the US for school you should be registered to take the SAT by December. <http://www.collegeboard.org/>. Some schools require SAT subject tests as well as the general SAT. These cannot be done at the same sitting.
- December 5, 6, 7** – Meetings to give the Ministry of Education permission to send your grades to post secondary schools. If you haven't created an account with the Ministry of Education you will be directed to do so – you will need your PEN#. By completing this online form you authorize the Ministry to send your interim grades to the post secondary schools of your choice; final transcripts will be sent in July. Please note, your information will be sent to the institutions in an electronic format. Counsellors will be providing sessions during your block 4 class time to fill out the Student Transcripts Service form.
 - www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca

STUDENT CORNER

Stefano Pandolfo had a wonderful week representing BC as a participant with Encounters Canada in Ottawa. He was chosen to be a wreath bearer at the Remembrance Day ceremony and enjoyed being a VIP alongside the dignitaries. Congratulations Stefano!



COMMUNITY NEWS

COQUITLAM'S CANADA 150 MOSAIC

Coquitlam Public Library and its partner organizations invite you to the unveiling of Coquitlam's Canada 150 Mosaic on Saturday, December 2. The event will begin at 11:00 am at the City Centre Branch of Coquitlam Public Library (1169 Pinetree Way). Refreshments will be served. About 550 community members came to the Library in October to paint the individual tiles that make up this mosaic. The Library acknowledges the City of Coquitlam and their Spirit of Coquitlam grant which funded this Canada 150 project. All are welcome.

SPRING 2018 BASEBALL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Early bird registration for spring baseball is now open for boys and girls age 4 - 17 who live in Coquitlam & Port Moody. This is a great way for kids to have fun and get active outside in the warmer spring weather. Save 10% if you register by Dec 31, 2017! For more information and to register, please visit the Coquitlam Moody Minor Baseball website at www.cmmba.com or contact clubhouse@cmmba.com.

MOODY REUNION 1969-2018

1969 – 2018

Moody REUNION

Inviting all

Staff, Students, Parents from all eras:

Port Moody Secondary 8-12 Moody Junior Moody Middle



Friday, January 12, 2018

4:30 to 8:30



École Moody Middle School of the Arts

3115 St. Johns Street, Port Moody

**Social in the gym: food and
beverages available for
purchase**



Tour the old buildings

Photo Booths

Memorabilia Displays

Questions? Contact:

carylnelson@shaw.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/moodyjunior.middlereunion/>

Help us celebrate and reminisce before the old buildings are gone!