

The Current - Monty Middle Newsletter

Volume # 19 January 13th, 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Monday,	Jan. 13 th	Student Parliament Mtg. @ 2:00 Athletics: Gr. 7 Girls Bball Practice @ 7:30 Gr. 8 Girls Bball Practice @ 3:15 – 4:15 Wrestling Practice @ 3:15 – 4:15 Gr. 7 Boys Bball Practice @ 4:15 – 5:15
Tuesday,	Jan. 14 th	Coquitlam Montessori Society – Monthly Board Mtg. @ 9:00 in Seminar Room Articulation: Best Counsellors meet with Gr. 8 Catchment students to preview Course selections @ 11:00 Athletics: Gr. 8 Boys Bball Practice @ 7:30 Gr. 6 Boys & Girls Bball Practice @ 12:30 – 1:00 Lunch Gr. 7 Boys and Girls District Bball Game Day
Wednesday,	Jan. 15 th	Clubs: Me to We Leadership Team Mtg. @ 12:30 rm. 22 Parents: Jan. PAC Mtg. @ 7:00 in Library Athletics: Gr. 8 Boys Bball Practice @ 7:30 Wrestling Practice @ 3:15 – 4:15 Gr. 7 Girls Bball Practice @ 4:15 – 5:15 Gr. 8 Boys and Girls District Bball Game Day
Thursday,	Jan. 16 th	Parent Night – For Gr. 8 students attending Dr. Charles Best School Information Evening @ 7:00 School Tour @ 6:30 Parent Night – Inquiry HUB @ Millside site has an Open House @ 7:00 please see attached info at the end of this newsletter Athletics: Gr. 7 Boys Bball Practice @ 3:15 – 4:15 District Wrestling Meets @ 3:30 – 4:30 Ski and Snowboard Session # 1 – weather dependent please check the website for updates.
Friday,	Jan. 17 th	Community Circles: in Block 4 Admin Assembly: All Gr 7 students meet Athletics: Gr. 8 Girls Bball Practice @ 7:30 Gr. 6 Boys and Girls Bball Practice & Mini Games @ 3:00 – 4:30
Monday,	Jan. 20 th	Athletics: Gr. 7 Girls Bball Practice @ 7:30 Gr. 8 Girls Bball Practice @ 3:15 – 4:15 Gr. 7 Boys Bball Practice @ 4:15 – 5:15
Next Week: Tues. Jan. 21 st French Language Presentation – Maple Man – all day sessions; Wed. Jan. 22 nd Explorations Rock Concert @ 1:15 – 1:30ish All students in gym; Thurs. Jan 23 rd Explorations Term 2 Ends/ Student Government JHC Workshop @ 1:00- 3:00/ Ski & Snowboard Session # 2 – weather dependent/ Late Montessori Info Mtg. and Registration @ Scott Creek Middle @ 7:00; Fri. Jan 24 th Monty Middle Pro D Day; Gr. 8 Tours of All Secondary School @ 12:00 – students must get their on their own or with a parent		
Two Weeks: Mon. Jan 27 th FSA Administration begins for Gr. 7 Students/ Explorations Term 3 begins/ Team Quadra – Walking Filed Trip – Skating in the AM; Fri. Jan 31 st Admin Team Meets Gr. 6 Students @ 1:15		

Inside this Issue:

McFaul's Chat and Chew:

- Xmas Story – Creative Short Story

Culture Beat:

- Ministry of Education – FSA Process
- Satisfaction Surveys
- Martial Arts Opportunity
- Winter Athletics Schedule
- Ski and Snowboard Club
- School Closure Info – Extreme Weather
- Secondary School Transition Info
 - Centennial Hockey Program
 - Cross Boundary Process – link
 - District Secondary Programs for Gr. 9 Students
- Kids Christmas Market Final Message of Appreciation

PAC News:

- PAC Thank You's
- Mtg. Info and Thrifty Cards

Community News:

- Coquitlam Moody Minor League Baseball Registration
 - Spring Break Legomation Camp Info
 - Learning, Land and Neighbourhoods Update
 - Safe Schools Task Force
 - Inquiry HUB Secondary School Open House
 - Coquitlam Continuing Education
 - Elite 4 Basketball
-

McFaul's Chat and Chew: A Xmas Story – Creative Writing winner

This past Christmas we challenged our students to participate in a creative writing contest titled, My Crazy Christmas Tradition, in which we had several strange criteria that must be represented in your story of 250- 300 words. The criteria was that the story had to contain the following references: Newfoundland, Lichtenstein, blueberries, a boat, swimming, and stinky socks – all starting with “ Twas the day after report cards ... and then ending with a satisfying twist to make the reader feel good about the story. We had several participants who submitted stories and we are holding true to our word about publishing the winner of the short story contest. Please enjoy and congratulations to Lauren Drexel in Gr. 7 Adv. 1.

My Crazy Christmas Tradition, by Lauren Drexel

Twas the day after report cards and I was so excited to begin my winter vacation! Every winter vacation my family and I take a three day long visit to Newfoundland and then spend the rest of it in Lichtenstein. So we boarded the plane and what felt like days later we were in Newfoundland! When we got there we visited my Grandma Betty and decided to stay for the two nights we were in town. Once we were settled we decided to take a boat ride. We sailed around for a bit then I went swimming in the cool ocean water. When we got back to Grandma’s house she made us hot chocolate and we all fell asleep by the fireplace. The next day there was a terrible snowstorm. There was no way we could travel in this weather! Now I guess my family and I will have to stay with Grandma for Christmas.

(One week until Christmas)

“Oh no this is awful!” my mom muttered as she paced back and forth. “What’s wrong?” I asked concerned for my mother’s wellbeing. “I haven’t brought any Christmas presents and we don’t have and stockings either!” she replied anxiously. “Don’t worry mom!” I said to her, “we’ll use these smelly socks to replace the stockings, and to make them smell better I’ll fill them with blueberries!”

(Christmas Eve)

Now it was Christmas Eve and my mom, dad, grandma and I were sitting around the Christmas tree singing carols. We had so much fun! The next day I ran out and looked under the tree and there were no presents. There were none in the stockings either. We were all kind of disappointed, but we realized that Christmas is about all the time you spend with your family and the fun times you have, so to represent that, every year we put blueberries in our stockings.

The End

Culture Beat: Events and Activities.

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) for Gr. 7 Students – It is that time of year again when all Gr. 7 students in the province are asked to show their skills in the areas of reading, writing and numeracy. A letter from our Superintendent Mr. Tom Grant will be going home to all parent/guardians of students in Gr. 7 today and the letter is also posted on our website under Publications. There is always much controversy around the FSA process with political pundits on both sides of the issue advocating their views and espousing their educational philosophy on this collection of tests. Over my years of administering the tests I have observed the following gamut of responses from students; from kids crying because they had to engage in the test (eventually I excused them) to kids asking me for a chance to re-write to improve their efforts (which is not allowed) and even kids who were wily enough to ask for examples to help clarify test questions. All of this in the name of obtaining data for the Ministry of Education that will be used to guide conversations about how to improve schools and support best practices in

classrooms. So the process begins and at Monty we will start with the FSA during the weeks of Jan. 20th – Feb. 14th with a schedule that allows all of our Gr. 7 students to try and show their best ability levels with no pressure to study or perform extra duties, but simply to work through the questions with support from their teacher and attempt to share their best response to the questions deemed to be significant by the Ministry of Education. There are six sections to this assessment – 2 that are completed on the computer and 4 that are completed in test booklets. Once they have been completed and scored, they will be sent home later (in March). All students are expected to write the FSA, however there are exemptions identified by the Ministry. These include:

- Students who have previously written the FSA
- Students who have IEPs documenting a disability that significantly impacts their performance in reading, writing or numeracy and who cannot meaningfully participate in all or part of the assessment, even with adaptations
- Students with IEPs who would need extensive adaptations or who would need such extended periods of time as to create a hardship for the individual students; or
- Those students who are reported and funded as receiving EAL support who have not yet reached a level of proficiency sufficient for them to provide meaningful responses to the reading or writing or numeracy sections of the FSA

Furthermore, a parent/guardian may request that a student be excused from participating in the 2014 FSA under the following exemptions as set out by the Ministry of Education:

- Family emergency
- Illness
- Extenuating circumstance

If you have any concerns and questions please feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher, Mr. McFaul or Ms. Holden for further support.

Satisfaction Surveys - Each year, the Ministry of Education asks that all grade seven students complete a satisfaction survey. There is also an opportunity for parents to take the 5-10 minutes necessary to complete the online satisfaction survey. While we have plenty of time to complete these surveys (the deadline is March 31st), we will be sending information home to parents in the near future (with individualized passwords – required in order to take part). Completion of this survey is voluntary for parents.

Martial Arts Training Comes to Monty – This week we will be having a Martial Arts Instructors work with our class teacher and students learning some basic introductions to the world of martial arts. This is integrated as part of our regular PE program and will provide students with an opportunity to extend their learning into life-long learning pursuits that focus on individual recreation, health and well-being. Please see the info below about our presenters.

Coquitlam Martial Arts academy (CQMA) is a premiere martial arts club owned by brothers Master Blake Lirette, Sensei Dean Lirette and Sensei Curtis Harriott.

Programs and Private Classes at CQMA are: Starting from white belt you will strengthen your mind, and develop a solid technical foundation; by being diligent, you can achieve your black belt and beyond.

Each student is required to learn specific techniques: stances, defense, moving, and striking. All classes include stretching, technique practice, and conditioning. Martial arts training strengthens core muscles and will keep you lean, flexible, and strong! Martial arts will increase your overall fitness level and sense of well-being. With consistent practice, you will, without a doubt:

- strengthen your mind
 - improve your physique
 - learn effective self-defense
 - increase your flexibility
-

- increase your balance
- increase your coordination
- increase your self-discipline
- meet great people
- enjoy a positive learning environment

For more information about the programs offered through CQMA please see their website:
www.coquitlammartialarts.com

Winter Athletics Call Out – All teams have started their practice schedule and participants have signed up. All athletes will be receiving an Athletic Permission Form that requires each athlete to pay a \$10.00 term sport registration fee. This money is used to pay for referees, purchase banners and support the cost of tournaments. Please complete the information on the Permission Form and submit by cheque or cash your \$10.00 fee for athletic team participation. Your support allows us to participate in the district level events and be a proud member of Coquitlam Middle School Athletics. Please encourage your child athlete to talk to their coaches when they know that they have previous engagements that require them to miss practices or games as this teaches responsibility and respect for the coach and their gift of volunteer time

MONTGOMERY MIDDLE SCHOOL 2014 Winter SEASON ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:30 - 8:30	Gr. 7 Girls Basketball Practice	Gr. 8 Boys Basketball Practice	Gr. 8 Boys Basketball Practice		Gr. 8 Girls Basketball Practice
3:15 - 4:15	Wrestling Practice			Wrestling Practice	
12:30 - 1:00		Gr. 6 Boys & Girls Basketball Practice			
3:15 - 4:15	Gr. 8 Girls Basketball Practice			Gr. 7 Boys Basketball Practice	3:05 - 4:30 Gr. 6 Boys and Girls Bball Practice
3:30 - 4:30		Grade 7 Basketball Game Day	Grade 8 Basketball Game Day	Wrestling Meets	
4:15 - 5:15	Gr. 7 Boys Basketball Practice		Gr. 7 Girls Basketball Practice		

- League Schedules to follow
-

Ski and Snowboard Club Info – As we await the good fortune of having snowfall on the local mountains and not in our driveways we keep our fingers crossed for good luck as we are still dealing with the issue of not enough snow for all runs to be open on Seymour Mtn. Please check our website and ask you child to be listening to the daily announcements for any new changes in our weather situation. For more information please contact Mrs. Sheila Hutchinson for cost and details at: shutchinson@sd43.bc.ca

School Closure in the Event of Extreme Weather

In the event of heavy snow, ice or extreme temperatures, a decision on school closures will take place as soon as possible after 6:00 a.m. that day.

- Check the district website at www.sd43.bc.ca beginning shortly after 6:00 a.m.
- Be sure to hit Refresh when checking back
- The district website posting is official – there is no need to call the school or the Board office after viewing
- Tune in to CKWX 1130 AM, CKNW 980 AM or CBC 690 AM for updates

TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS:



December 2, 2013

New Parents and Player(s)

Re: Centennial (Coquitlam) Hockey Academy

We are currently contacting all grade 8's 2nd year Bantam players going into grade 9 this September to determine the number of players planning to attend the Centennial (Coquitlam) Secondary Hockey Academy.

As you are aware no doubt aware the school offers players an opportunity to participate in the hockey academy as part of the regular school day and students receive academic credit.

This year's academy currently has 28 students enrolled and the group is full. It is expected that most will be returning for next September.

In order for us to make the necessary arrangements we need to determine how many players going into grade 9 are planning to attend the hockey academy.

Existing participants have first opportunity to re-register by January 15th, after that we open up the registration process to new students.

New Parent/Player Information Night – February 5th @ 6pm

We will host our new parent/player information night February 5th at 6:00pm at Centennial Secondary School anyone interested in learning more about the academy are encouraged to attend.

The district's cross enrollment policy allows students to attend Centennial Secondary or remain at Charles Best and participate in the hockey academy.

In the meantime in order to help us project the possible number of new players wanting to attend the academy in September please email craig@rpmhockey.com or Keith Peterson KPeterson@sd43.bc.ca and your name will be added to our waitlist.



“The pursuit of Academic and Hockey Excellence”

X- Catchment/ Boundary Information – Please see the embedded link below to learn more about the dates and schedule for Cross Catchment Applications.

[Cross Catchment Application Process](#)

In January, the process of transitioning our Grade 8s to secondary schools throughout the school district will begin. Very shortly, you will receive a letter detailing this process and letting you know which secondary school your child will be going to, based on the information that you completed in the student verification form earlier this year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Carruthers or Mr. McFaul @ 604 – 939 7367

DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Programs of Choice, Advanced Placement (AP) & Other Specialty Courses 2013-2014 are detailed and wide ranging. For more information on all the possible course opportunities for secondary school settings and programs extending into the senior years of Gr. 10/ 11/ 12 we encourage all parents to access the following website for further explorations of choices.

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Programs/Pages/default.aspx>

PAC News and Events: Our Next PAC Mtg. is on Wed. Jan. 15th @ 7:00

Thanks to our PAC Executive members for maintaining their commitment and energy to help our school stay focused and vibrant with their organizing, fund raising and support of our many programs. We always welcome some more attendees to come join us at our next PAC mtg. and starting of the New Year would be a great way to extend your support to your child's school community.

Thrifty's Smile Card Fundraising - Montgomery PAC has received approval for this year's Smile Card Fund Raising. All pre-existing cards are ready to load for this school year. 5% of \$\$ loaded at any Thrifty Foods will be paid to Montgomery Middle PAC.

Cards can be obtained by e-mailing Elaine at equereng@hotmail.com. Ordered cards will be left at the office for pick-up.

Community News:

Please see the following list of community events.

Coquitlam-Moody Minor Baseball Association has been around for just over 50 years and our registration is now open for the 2014 season

We have 3 levels of baseball to suit every player's needs:

- 1) For the player looking high level competition
- 2) For the player looking to improve their skill level
- 3) For the player who mostly enjoys the social aspect of the game of baseball

Prices are very reasonable - - great value for your money!

Division	YOB	Fee
Rally Cap	2009	Free
Mini Tadpole	2007-08	\$125.00
Tadpole	2005-06	\$135.00
Mosquito	2003-04	\$170.00
Pee Wee	2001-02	\$180.00
Bantam	1999-00	\$210.00
Midget	1996,97,98	\$245.00

Give it a try and register now at www.cmma.com/home.php

Spring Break LegoMation Classic camp.

The date for the camp is March 17-21.

You can find all the information concerning the camp on our site:

http://mediafinearts.com/legomation_classic.html

We will only be running the one camp at Spring Break, and, with the new Lego Movie coming out, we do expect to sell out quickly. So don't wait too long to register. ☺ We will also be running our full camp program this summer.

Learning, Land and Neighbourhoods Update

Issue 2

January 9, 2014

Welcome!

This is the second e.letter on the Learning, Land and Neighbourhoods initiative, aimed at keeping you informed and up-to-date as the initiative progresses. If you missed the first e.letter you can read it [here](#).

This initiative is a public dialogue with elected officials, parents, students and local residents to get feedback on better managing the Coquitlam School District owned-land assets and better supporting the growing need for more schools in our district.

Through this initiative, four properties are under consideration: the empty Coronation Park Elementary School, the ageing Moody Elementary School, a portion of Parkland Elementary School site and a portion of the Victoria Park site. The goal is to gather your feedback and ideas to help us make the best use of these properties for students today and in the future.

Learn more about the [initiative](#), and follow the conversation on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Where we are now

Between October and December 2013, we met with elected officials, held an open house, held four property-specific community dialogues and joined the public in a Twitter chat with the board chair. We also received input via an online survey, Twitter, Facebook and email.

We spent time over the winter holidays analyzing, summarizing and reviewing the data collected throughout this process. The feedback from the community was rich and diverse and greatly appreciated. We have revised the [main section of our Learning, Land and Neighbourhoods webpage](#) to include the following for you to review:

- Listing of Community Events (including summary reports & presentations)
- Methods of Engagement
- Summary of Findings
- Read about the Twitter Chat

Public Board Meeting

The next step in the process is for the Board of Education to communicate its decision on next steps for the four properties at the regularly-scheduled public board meeting.

This meeting will be happening on:

Tuesday January 14th, 2014 – 7:30 p.m.

Gallery Room at Winslow Centre

1100 Winslow Avenue

Coquitlam

If you are unable to attend the public board meeting, we will be live-tweeting from the meeting about the initiative using the #sd43lln hashtag so you can follow the conversation online.

Learning, Land and Neighbourhoods

You talk. We'll listen.

Phone: 604.939.9201

Email: engagement@sd43.bc.ca

[Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#)

School District No. 43 Safe Schools Task Force
An invitation to the School District Community
Tuesday Feb. 4th from 7-9 pm
Coquitlam Alliance Church, 2601 Spuraway Ave, Coquitlam, B.C.
Parenting our Kids in the 21st Century
Presented by Kevin Cameron
Director: Canadian Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response
The 2nd of a Three Series Event sponsored by The Ministry of Education,
School District No. 43 and the partner groups listed below.

Peer dynamics, school dynamics, and broader social dynamics can have a tremendous influence on our children and youth and the greatest evolving force of all is the role of technology from texting, social networking (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat) and the Internet in its totality.

The factors that can negatively influence child and adolescent behaviours are far more prevalent now than when most parents were children themselves. The strategies to manage those risk factors have not necessarily changed; we just need to do more of it.

This presentation will look at some of the common and evolving problems faced by children, families and schools in this generation, and strategies used to deal with some of North America's most complex cases from high profile suicides and violent incidents to the quiet personal tragedies known only by those who have endured them.

Please plan to attend at this event at the Coquitlam Alliance Church, 2601 Spuraway Ave, Coquitlam, B.C. Seating is limited to 700.



Inquiry Hub
Secondary
School
Open House
and
Information
Session

Thursday Jan. 16th, 7pm

<http://www.inquiryhub.org/open-house-jan-16th-2014/>

<http://www.inquiryhub.org/application/>

<http://www.inquiryhub.org/contact/>

The Coquitlam Open Learning Inquiry Hub is for learners who share a passion for knowing and investigation and have an interest in using technology to seek answers to their questions. The Inquiry Hub will appeal to families who are seeking a smaller, cooperative learning environment where students can focus on their interests individually and in small teams – those who:

- Are motivated learners that have some self-regulation skills
- Want a chance to apply their learning in a practical way
- Are interested in research and learning with technology
- Find structured classes do not meet their learning needs
- Are interested in learning through social networks
- Desire to work on projects which make a difference

The Inquiry Hub offers the following benefits for students:

- Instruction which blends classroom and online experiences in a hybrid model
- A student-driven inquiry approach to learning
- Significant reduction of structured classes with emphasis on a learning commons where students do daily group project work and individual, computer-based learning
- Class environments which group students around interests and project focus rather than grade levels
- Parents and community as active learning partners
- Extensive use of peer mentorship in cross-grade projects
- Core, inquiry-based program offerings which are extended through our extensive list of online courses

Website: <http://inquiryhub.org> Application: <http://www.inquiryhub.org/application/>



Learn in the Tri-Cities

Face-to-face

www.ce43.com



Study English. **FREE** learning opportunities!

Join our Foundations English classes for adults which focus on basic reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

REGISTRATION AT MONTGOMERY ADULT LEARNING CENTRE

Thursdays ONLY until December 19 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Thursdays January 9 - ongoing 4:00 - 7:00 PM

PLEASE BRING:

- 1 Proof of Canadian Status
- 2 Photo ID
- 3 Two proofs of BC residency

MONTGOMERY ADULT LEARNING CENTRE
380 Montgomery Street, Coquitlam
British Columbia, V3K 5G2

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL OR VISIT
604.936.4261 | www.ce43.com



GRADE 3-8 CO-ED SPRING BREAK CAMP

ABOUT US

O4E was created for players who want compete against their peers in a high-level of competition in an environment that will help push them to get better every single day. It will give younger players an opportunity to go against older more experienced players in a safe encouraging environment. This will help prepare players coming from middle school get used to the high-level of intensity required to play at the next level and will give the high school players a place where they can play and train during the off-

OUR VISION

"We envision our players to one day become key contributors on college campuses across the country. Someday there will be alumni who are collegiate athletes, teachers, doctors, businessmen, coaches, politicians, scientists, or maybe even NBA stars; our hope is that all these alumni share one



Our stand out Senior from Centennial Justin Buren, dual sport athlete heading to Simon Fraser University for football

THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE



CAMP DETAILS

This is a grade 3-5 and 6-8 Camp, **ONLY 20 SPOTS PER GRADE!!**. We wish to have everyone registered online on our website by February 2nd (for our clothing order) We will be running the camp out of Centennial Secondary School's Red gym, from **March 17th-21st**. **Grade3-5 from 10AM-12PM and grade 6-8 from 12-2PM** A fee of \$85.00 by cash or cheque (to Mike Higham) at the door. More information on our website www.o4eliteathletics.webs.com

PROVIDE

- Individual skill development
- Team concept development
- Team/ individual rebounding
- Team transition principles
- How to move without the ball
- How to set screens
- Shooting
- Finishing at the rim
- How to play man-to-man defense
- Plans for success on and off the