

Dr. Charles Best Secondary

2525 Como Lake Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3J 3R8 Website: www.sd43.bc.ca/charlesbest

Principal – Carol Coulson, Vice-Principals – Leann Buteau, Rob Lederer,
Anita Young (seconded to District),



Best Vibrations Newsletter – Discover Your Best

March 31, 2017

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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

Even though our previous newsletter was only a few 'school weeks' ago a lot has taken place. I hope everyone enjoyed a fun and restful Spring Break.

A Grade 11 Parent group organized a Parent Fundraiser Dinner & Dance that took place in our small gym on Saturday, March 4th. This annual event has taken place for many years to help offset the price of the grad dinner and dance for the following year's grads. This year's dance was themed the "80's" and participants pulled out all stops with their costumes. The event was sold out and not only did the participants have an exceptional time, it raised thousands of dollars to support the Grads of 2018. A special thank you to the organizing chairpersons, Dana Tent and Barb Davis, and to all of the hard working committee chairs and volunteers.

Early March also saw our Interim report process, our Spring Music Concert and Parent/Teacher/Student interviews. As always, we had a great turnout at the interviews and applaud our parents for taking their role in their child's education so seriously. Parent involvement and support is key to student success. As always, please maintain open communication with your child and their teachers and do not hesitate to email or call. The first formal report cards of the semester will be going home on April 27th.

Last night was the Student Council sponsored "Starry Night" student dance. Over 350 tickets were sold and students in all grades enjoyed a fun evening. Special thanks to Mr. Hakeem and all of the student council members who planned and organized the event and to the many staff members who volunteered their time to supervise.

Spring is here, at least by date if not by weather, and April is just around the corner. Before we know it we will be quickly approaching the end of the year so students are reminded to maintain good attendance and work habits to finish the year strong. If you are receiving multiple automated attendance callouts please contact the teachers directly to follow up. There are lots of events coming up including fundraisers, After Grad events, Relay for Life, the theatre production of Bye Bye Birdie and of course all of our year end grad and wrap up events so please keep an eye on the calendar and on your emails. Students in grades nine to eleven have all handed in course requests for next year and are reminded there will be very little room in next year's schedule to change their mind and select different courses in September. The last chance to double check or make a last minute switch with their counsellor is now.

Please consider attending the Parents as Partner in Prevention (Preventing, Understanding and Responding to Youth Substance-Use) that is taking place in our library on Tuesday, April 4 at 7pm. These presentations are taking place in all of the secondary schools in the district and further information attached to this newsletter. Also, our After-Grad committee will be looking for volunteers to help with fundraisers and at the event on June 17th. Please consider helping as they can always use more help, donations, etc.

We are looking forward to a strong finish to this school year.

Carol Coulson,
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

March 31

After Grad Pub Night Fundraiser – Mickey's Pub
7pm to 1am

April 4

"Parents as Partners in Prevention" Presentation
7pm, Library

April 4 – 19

Valedictorian Nominations

April 14 – 17

Easter Long Weekend (school closed Friday, April 14 and Monday, April 17)

April 20

Dance Marathon "Miracle Movement" 3 to 8pm,
Small Gym

April 21

Pro-D Day (students do not attend school)

April 27

Third Formal Report Card distributed

April 28

Grade 12 Assembly (Valedictorian nomination speeches and voting)

May 1

PAC Annual General Meeting 7pm, Library

May 3-6 and May 10-13

Spring Play "Bye Bye Birdie" curtain at 7:30 pm

May 8

School Based Pro-D Day (student do not attend school)

May 22

Victoria Day – Stat Holiday – school closed

May 23

Small Ensemble Night 7pm

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING THIS MONTH?

GRADE 11 PARENT DANCE

The Grade 11 Parent Dinner and Dance Fundraiser, that took place on March 4th, was a great success filled with fantastic prizes, fabulous good, great music, lots of laughter, amazing costumes and much more. A big thank you to the organizing committee for all the work and many hours spent in making sure this event was a success. Many thanks to all the parents and businesses who donated items for the silent auction and the wine raffle! We received a lot of support from the Charles Best Staff. They made everything easier for us. We were able to raise over \$10,000 which will be used towards reducing the cost of the Grad Dinner and Dance Tickets for our 2018 Grads. (Dana Tent, Grade 11 Parent Dance Committee)

"A STARRY NIGHT" SPRING DANCE

Around 300 students from all grades hit the dance floor for a night of fun and did so with style at this year's Starry Night Spring Dance hosted by the Student Council. Whether it was the live rapping, the photo booth, or the cotton candy, this dance had a little bit of everything to make for a memorable night. Thanks to all the staff, admin team and student council volunteers who made the night a real success!



FRANCE 2017 TRIP

During Spring Break Mme. Bruneau, Mme. Manolis, Mr. Proulx and Mr. De Angelis headed to France with 31 French Immersion students and 3 FSL students to experience 11 days of French language, culture and history.

The trip was a great success! Students were able to visit some of the iconic monuments in Paris such as the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, Sacre Coeur and the Opera Garnier. They also travelled north to Vimy Ridge, to Yprès in Belgium, to Juno beach in Normandy, Rouen, the Monastery of St. Michel and the castles of the Loire Valley including Versailles. Highlights of the trip were placing wreaths on behalf of all of Dr. Charles Best Secondary School at the Vimy Ridge Monument to honour the 100th anniversary of Canada's great contribution to WWI. In addition, the students took part in a beach clean up at the Juno center to honour Canadian soldiers who fought so valiantly on those shores during WWII to help liberate France from German occupation. All four teachers are so proud of each and every student who went on this trip. They were great representatives of our school and of Canada abroad.





WHAT'S COMING UP?

POETRY IN VOICE

Best of luck to Claire Song, Inaya Bhimani and Juliana Nunes, representing Best today (March 31st) in the Poetry in Voice Regional competition at Prince of Wales Secondary in Vancouver. Each of the girls will recite one poem as they compete against teams from around the Lower Mainland. The team of three with the highest combined score will win the competition.

BEST PLAYERS PRESENT "BYE BYE BIRDIE" – MAY 3 TO 6 & MAY 10 TO 13

The Best Players are proud to present Bye Bye Birdie. This timeless rock and roll love story is a classic and sure to be fun for the whole family. When Conrad Birdie, a singer more famous than Elvis, is drafted into the army his fans and those who handle him struggle to grasp the possibility of life without him. To ensure Birdie will live in the hearts of his fans forever, manager Albert J. Peterson and his secretary/love interest Rosie Alvarez, plan to televise one last kiss between the star and one of his biggest fans, Miss Kim MacAfee, from Sweet Apple, Ohio. When the big-time New York publicity stunt meets small town/single minded values things are bound to go wrong. The actors, musicians and dancers that make up the Best Players have been working tirelessly to present the full Broadway score of this wonderful musical with book by Michael Stewart, lyrics by Lee Adams and music by Charles Strouse. Director Brad Case and Musical director Brent Hughes invite you to come and enjoy the live orchestra, the brilliant performances, the stunning sets and the fantastic story that make this musical a comedy classic. Bye-Bye Birdie opens on May 3rd and runs May 4th, 5th, 6th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$12.00 for students and seniors. Box office opens at 6:45 pm, doors open at 7:00 pm with curtain at 7:30 pm. Mark your calendars! Be sure to save one of the dates and make Bye Bye Birdie part of your spring.



STUDENTS

MR. JONES' WOODWORKING CLASS



Arman Fazl shows off his latest cutting board made of Purple Heart and Eastern Maple. Arman is in his grade 12 year and has been accepted into BCIT's Cabinetry and Joinery program in the fall.

2nd year woodworker Makayla Gallo shows off her unique coffee table made out of crates.



SWEAT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

SWEAT (Structured Work Experience and Training) is a select program offered to grade 11 & 12 students at the Art Institute of Vancouver. Students can spend part of Spring Break experiencing a wide array of creative opportunities: design, media arts, event management, fashion and culinary. Students participate hands-on and are guided by industry professionals. Two students from Best were winners of a \$1,000 scholarship based on the work they did. Hannah Bittante won for a lamp she made in Interior Design and Sebastian Pesa for Game Design.



INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

FRENCH IMMERSION GRADE 9 CAMPING TRIP

At the end of June, there is a camping trip organized for the grade 9 French Immersion students. The grade 11's are invited to participate to help run the games and activities. This will count as volunteer hours. This a 2 night, 3 day event open to students who have no overdue assignments. Because of the limited space, this is on a first come, first serve basis. Registration will start after Easter Monday however, if you need more information, you may contact your teacher or one of the teacher organizers below:

Mme Fournier: ofournier@sd43.bc.ca

M. Major: omajor@sd43.bc.ca

M. Poudré: ppoudre@sd43.bc.ca

Mme Touré: ntoure@sd43.bc.ca

DR. CHARLES BEST FUNDRAISER – FUNDSCHIP GIFT CARDS

Looking for a gift for Mother's Day? Look no further! We have a new fundraiser at Charles Best: Fundscrip Gift Cards. Buy cards for where you normally shop or dine (grocery stores, clothing, restaurants, etc.) and our school will profit! You can buy cards online on our school's webpage <https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/4656/108/False/True> or you can pick up an order form in the school office. Thank you for your support!

LEARN A SKILL, GET PAID & GAIN HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS

Did you know students who are working in the trades (cook, baker, carpenter, landscaper, mechanic, etc.) can also earn credits towards graduation? They can also apply for a \$1,000 scholarship. The scholarship does NOT need to go towards trades training. If you are presently working in the trades, phone 604-312-7739 or email bmclean@sd43.bc.ca to speak with Mr. McLean and get signed up for this great opportunity. For more information you can visit <http://tinyurl.com/SD43WorkinTrades>.

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO ALL GRADE 12'S

Upcoming dates: Valedictorian Nominations April 4-19, Grade 12 Assembly (nomination speeches and voting) April 28, Guest Forms available April 28. Please ensure all fees, lost textbooks and library fines are paid up, and that you've completed your Grad Transitions in order to purchase Grad Tickets in May. Grade 12's also need to fill out the Grad survey as soon as possible? Go to: www.bigsasquatch.com

NEW DIGITAL MEDIA RESOURCES

MediaSmarts, the Canadian not-for-profit charitable organization for digital and media literacy has developed some new guides that may be of interest to parent councils:

- [Getting the Most Out of Video Games Guide](#)
- [Digital Citizenship for Parents](#)
- [A Guide for Trusted Adults: Practical Tips and Tools for Supporting Girls and Young Women Navigating Life Online](#)
- [Talk Back! How to Take Action on Media Issues](#)

The [Canadian Centre for Child Protection](#) wants to make parents aware of concerns in a popular gaming environment called Roblox. Roblox is a user-generated gaming environment where children are encouraged to create adventures using their avatar, play games and connect with friends in this multiplayer environment that claims to have over 44 million active users. The Canadian Centre's [Cybertip.ca](#) program has received a number of reports concerning requests to meet up in person, and/or sexually suggestive chat messages being sent to children under the age of 12 within Roblox.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM) EXTERNAL LISTINGS/LINKS - posted on the [district public-facing website here](#).

COMMUNITY NEWS (ATTACHED):

Summer Learning 2017 – Secondary Program – Continuing Education (SD#43)

SHARE – Alcohol & Drug Addiction Programs – Education Series – Spring 2017