

Dr. Charles Best Secondary

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

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

December 22, 2017: Issue No. 5

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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IMPORTANT DATES

December 23 – January 7

Winter Break (All Schools Closed)

January 8

School Re opens
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

February 1

Second Formal Report Card distributed to students

February 9

School Not In Session

February 12

BC Family Day (Stat Holiday)

February 22

Gr 9-11 Parent Information Evening

February 23

District Pro-D Day (students do not attend)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that another holiday season is upon us already and harder still to believe that we are already digging ourselves out of the snow pile once again!

It is that time of year where the spirit of giving and caring comes to the forefront at Dr. Charles Best as many of our students and staff have been working hard to spread joy and good will on campus and in our community. Our student groups – Best Buddies, Leadership students, Project Hello and Student Council – have been busy with a variety of fundraising events for SHARE, collecting food for Christmas hampers, taking photos with Santa, organizing Spirit Week, and preparing and delivering Secret Santa gifts for seniors. As well, we look forward to this Friday's Annual Talent Show that will feature student and staff performances that will surely entertain us all as we bid a temporary farewell to each other and to the last day of school for 2017.

On the evening of Wednesday, December 13, our band and choir students transformed the large gym into a performance arena for the annual Holiday Music Concert. There was standing room only as usual, as the students showcased their incredible talents with more traditional carols reimaged in creative and unique arrangements. What an event!

Our student athletes are also demonstrating their skills and talents in the winter sports of basketball, wrestling and lacrosse; the teams are all underway and working hard.

Students are working hard in their classes during this home stretch and despite the festivities in and around the school, they continue to stay focused on completing projects, assignments, and unit tests. As we break for a much-deserved holiday, we can all take time to reflect on what we have accomplished so far this school year; the New Year is a great time to take stock and resolve to take steps towards continued learning and achievement in 2018.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Vice Principal Mr. Rob Lederer on his retirement, which was recently announced. While it is always hard to say goodbye, we are very pleased to welcome our new Vice Principal, Mr. Dave Jones. We look forward to having Mr. Jones join our Admin Team on January 31.

We wish you all the very best for a Merry Christmas with family and friends and a Happy New Year!

Carol Coulson
Principal

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

DISTRICT PUBLIC SPEAKING FINALS

This semester students in Mr. Pather's Grade 10 and Grade 12 classes participated in Public Speaking. Students in Grade 12 were tasked with creating and presenting a formal persuasive speech, while students in Grade 10 chose from the less formal and more peer engaging "Poetry Slam" or "This I believe" public speaking forms. The culmination of this activity was for a select number of these students to present their work at this year's District Public Speaking Competition held at Terry Fox Theatre on Thursday, December 7. We had several winners in a number of categories:



Formal Speeches

Katie Graf - Grade 12 - "Test Anxiety" - Gold Medal
Omron Samadi - Grade 12 - "Banning Sensationalism" - Silver Medal
Anika Kim - Grade 12 - "Consumerism" - Silver Medal
Kaitlyn Daly - Grade 12 - "Legalizing Prostitution" - Silver Medal
Julie Cox - Grade 12 - "Better Learning Environments" - Bronze Medal

This I Believe

Juliana Nunes - Grade 10 - "Never Give Up" - Silver Medal
Alessandra Reddekopp - Grade 10 - "Love Trumps Hate" - Bronze Medal

Slam Poetry

Evan Stewart - Grade 10 - "School Isn't Teaching Us The Right Things" - Silver Medal

CHRISTMAS MUSIC CONCERTS

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual Christmas concert last Wednesday. There were excellent performances by our concert bands, jazz bands and vocal ensembles who were well received by the standing room only audience. Our vocal jazz ensemble also performed for the senior luncheon and the Dogwood pavilion in early December. It was a great chance to perform in our community! Catch the jazz bands next at Fine Arts Night on January 16th.

LEADERSHIP CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

We raised over \$1,000 as well as filled a number of bins with toys for the Christmas Toy Drive. Our Leadership students brought the toys to the Christmas Wish Breakfast at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Vancouver on December 13.



MULTI CULTURAL FIELD TRIP

On December 1st, several international and EAL (English as an Additional Language) students went downtown Vancouver to kick-off the winter season. They went to FlyOver Canada, CBC News and Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden. Throughout the field trip, students experienced Canadian culture and how our society celebrates its diversity.



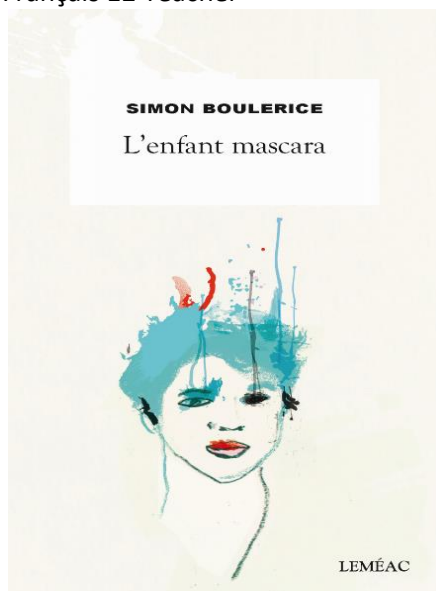
MONTREAL AUTHOR'S LIVED EXPERIENCES BRING NOVEL TO LIFE

After studying Simon Boulerice's (2016) *L'enfant mascara* [in English, *The mascara child*], Grade 12 French Immersion students met face to face with the author via video conference on December 14th. *L'enfant mascara* tells the story of 15-year-old Larry Fobes King, who was murdered by one of his classmates in 2008 at E.O. Green Junior High School in Oxnard, California. The story is based on true events; Larry/Leticia's death is considered one of the most flagrant transphobic crimes in U.S. history. Students had the opportunity to learn more about Boulerice and his inspirations behind writing the novel, as well as his personal struggles growing up gay in Montreal. Boulerice was asked a series of very powerful questions from students, ranging from why Larry/Leticia's story in particular resonated with him, to the importance of writing about sexual diversity.

We look forward to hosting Simon Boulerice at Dr. Charles Best Secondary next semester, but this time for a live book talk in person!

Mr. Hakeem

Français 12 Teacher



WHAT'S COMING UP?

NUMERACY ASSESSMENT – IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR GRADE 10 AND 11 STUDENTS

As part of the new Graduation Program, the Ministry of Education has introduced a new Provincial Examination starting in January 2018, the Numeracy Assessment. This assessment is not connected to a specific course, but will be included on each student's official transcript as a stand-alone score. This is a required assessment for graduation and students will be given up to 3 opportunities to write the assessment. It is only available in e-format, so students will write the examination in one of our computer labs, although there is a short paper component to the exam as well.

All students who are currently enrolled in a Grade 10 or Grade 11 Math course in Semester 1 have been pre-registered to take the exam in January. Grade 10 Math students will write the exam on Tuesday, January 23 and Grade 11 Math students will write the exam on Wednesday, January 24. We will run 2 exam sessions on each day, 8:30 to 12:00 and 12:30 to 4:00.

Students have been assigned a specific exam date and time and must attend the session as assigned. Upon our return to school in the new year, students will be asked to check the exam schedule which will be posted in the main foyer.

While this exam is not tied to a specific course, our Math Department will allocate some class time in January to help prepare students for the exam. We also encourage students and parents to familiarize themselves with the exam format by visiting the following link on the Ministry Website: [Numeracy Assessment Information](#). This link contains valuable information for students and parents, including pre-assessment activities, sample questions, a complete sample assessment, a scoring guide, and exemplars. Taking time to review these support materials will help prepare students for the assessment.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact either Mrs. Anita Young (ayoung@sd43.bc.ca) or Mrs. Sharon McKay (shmckay@sd43.bc.ca) for more information.

POETRY IN VOICE

The **Poetry in Voice** competition, a poetry recitation contest, will return to Best's library February 15, 2018. Now is the time for students to select and memorize poems from the Poetry in Voice site. Any student can sign up to participate in either the English or the Bilingual stream. Top performers from the school qualify for the national on-line semi-finals. Reciters selected from the semi-finals will be flown all expenses paid to Toronto for the finals in April. See Ms. Silzer in the library for more information, or e-mail her at dsilzer@sd43.bc.ca. Go to www.poetryinvoic.com to find competition rules, and to explore the huge list of poems you can choose from.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS! – EMERGING TALENT ART SHOW 2017

Grade 12 visual arts students in School District 43 graduating in the spring of 2018 and applying to a post-secondary art program by June 2018 are invited to submit their work. The intention of the exhibition at Evergreen Centre is to provide SD 43 art students who have a desire to pursue a visual arts vocation, the chance to experience the process of a formal exhibition. All the art works (2D & 3D) must be submitted no later than Tuesday, January 9th, 2018. Please see Mr. Yoo (room 207 & 209) for more details.

ATHLETICS

WINTER SPORTS

Senior Boys Basketball
Junior Boys Basketball
Grade 9 Boys Basketball
Senior Girls Basketball
Junior Girls Basketball
Senior Boys Lacrosse
Junior Boys Lacrosse
Wrestling

Sponsor/Coach

Mike Parkins, Matt Sokol, Dani Chu
Daniel Depelteau/ sponsor: Sophie Viswanathan
Soheil Raisi/ sponsor: Matt Sokol
Daniel Depelteau/ sponsor: Sophie Viswanathan
Sophie Viswanathan, Dave MacDonald
Lisa Nichols, Gord Kask
Lisa Nichols, Gord Kask
Joe Coops, Phil Jaeggle

SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

The senior boys' basketball team had a solid start to their season, finishing 3rd at the Westview Secondary Tip-Off Tournament. The boys beat defending BC Single A Champs BC Christian Academy 98-56. At the Guildford Park Tournament on Dec 14-16, the boys lost to Pitt Meadows (Top 10 in AAA) 74-67. At the Pinetree Tournament on Dec 18-19, the team started with a win over Kitsilano Blue 81-53. A highlight was Nonis getting a first team All Star award (and coming second in the dunk contest!).

At the first ever Blue Devils Alumni Basketball mini-tournament on Dec. 21, we had nearly 45 players participating on four different teams, organized by grad years 2010-12, 2013-14, 2015-17 and the current Blue Devils squad. The 2010-12 team won, led by former UBCO players Matt Dalton-Gibson and Julian Asselstine and current Canadian Army member Kevin Keeley, while this year's team finished with a respectable 2 wins and 2 losses to finish third. A highlight of the night was the presence of the family of Ethan Denum (Grad 2015), who were invited to be spectators; we spoke fondly of Ethan and played in his honour. Ethan was the epitome of a great teammate, and his presence at the 2016 Alumni game, just weeks before he passed away after his battle with cancer, was a memory upon which all the players fondly reflected.



INFORMATION

COAT, SWEATER AND BLANKET COLLECTION

Starting on January 10, we will be collecting new and used coats, sweaters, scarves, and blankets for the homeless. Please share this information with your friends, neighbours and relatives. Drop off items at the Youth Worker's office before January 19.

GET PAID & EARN HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS

Students who are working in a trade (cook, baker, carpenter, mechanic, etc.) can also earn credits towards graduation and they can apply for a \$1,000 scholarship. The scholarship does NOT need to go towards trades training. If you are working in the trades, phone 604-312-7739 or email bmclean@sd43.bc.ca to sign up for this great opportunity. For more information you can visit www.sd43.bc.ca/CareerPrograms/Pages/SSA.aspx

SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2018 – END OF SEMESTER

- As part of the learning outcomes for Career Education 9, it is mandatory for all grade 9 students to attend the CE presentation on Monday, January 22. This 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.

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| 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 |

SCHOOL POLICY FORMS ONLINE

If you have not already done so, please go to the school website under quick links: Parent E Forms, School Policies; fill out and submit.

YEARBOOK DEADLINE

Yearbook purchase deadline is January 31, 2018. Less than 145 yearbooks are available to purchase so don't miss out!

NO SMOKING – INCLUDING VAPORIZERS

The District prohibits smoking in schools and on school property by all staff, students, parents and visitors at all times.

GRAD CORNER

JANUARY

- **January 15th** - deadline to apply to UBC & to apply for Major Entrance Awards (based on financial need).
- Plan for a spring visit of your post-secondary school, if you can.
- **You must complete Grad Transitions to graduate! You will not be able to purchase your Dinner/Dance tickets or pick up your commencement tickets if you have not completed your Grad Transitions. Grad Transitions are all online: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/charlesbest/ProgramsServices/gradtransitions/Pages/default.aspx> or see **Mr. Last, rm. 205 (mlast@sd43.bc.ca)**.**

SFU DEADLINES AND INFORMATION

January 2, 2018 – Self-reporting opens (for BC high school applicants)

January 15, 2018 – Deadline to apply for Entrance Scholarships

February 28, 2018 – Deadline to apply for admission, Beedie supplemental application and Beedie interim grades (BC 12 students self-report their grades)

April 30, 2018 – Deadline to self-report grades (BC 12 students), Distributed learning/online courses must be 100% complete

UBC APPLICATIONS

January 15, 2018 – Deadline to apply

January 31, 2018 – Document deadline for official interim transcripts

February 1, 2018 – Final course completion date for distance and distributed online courses

DOUGLAS COLLEGE

January 15, 2018 – Deadline for Veterinary Technology

CAREER CENTRE

Scholarships are added regularly. Be sure to visit the online career centre for new listings, information and links!

GRADE 12 GRAD GOWN SIZE FORM

If you still have not handed in your form for your grad gown size please complete and return to Mrs. Zanatta in the office.

STUDENT CORNER

Congratulations to grade 12 student Jung Hee Park for earning the Award of Excellence certificate from the Poetry Institute of Canada. She received the award for her poetry submission to the Young Writers Creative Writing Contest. Jung Hee founded and organizes the Charles Best Writing Club. Dr. Charles Best Secondary was also awarded a Certificate of Excellence for the contributions of the Writing Club to the contest.



WOODWORKING

Justin Vranesich shows off his cedar deck chair that he made in Mr. House's Wood 12 class.



Donald Pruger uses a jig on the table saw to cut angle supports for school benches.



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Season's Greetings 2017

Christmas time and the winter break are upon us. It is a joyous time for concerts and parties and for spending quality time with friends and family.

After an always busy Fall season the winter break provides time to rest and reflect on our many achievements over the year. Our students continue to succeed because of the strong leadership and collaborative teamwork of all our employees and the positive school communities we have built. Together we have accomplished so much in 2017 and we have many new and exciting opportunities to look forward to in 2018.

The Christmas season is also a time of warmth, compassion, charitable giving and volunteering to help those in need. This is the true spirit of Christmas and we are proud of our students, employees and parents for all they do for each other, their schools and their communities.

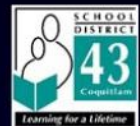
May the joy of Christmas be in your hearts, and may your goals for the New Year come true. Relax, recharge and most importantly be festive and merry.

On behalf of School District No. 43 (Coquitlam), I wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our students, parents and employees!

See you in 2018!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Gartland".

Patricia Gartland
Superintendent of Schools



PAC NEWS

NEXT PAC MEETING: Monday, January 8 – 7pm in the school Library.

AFTER GRAD 2018

PUB NIGHT – SATURDAY, JANUARY 27:

Join us for a relaxing and fun filled Pub Night at Mickey's Pub in Coquitlam. Tickets are \$20.00. There will be a Silent Auction, 50/50 draw and Toonie Toss. Tickets are available now on the Charles Best website, only 100 tickets available.

EASIEST RECYCLING FUNDRAISER EVER

We have set up an account at the Express Return-It Depot located at 1045A Lougheed Highway, the one across from IKEA, literally right next door to Boston Pizza, to raise money for the 2018 After Grad!

This is how it works:

- Place all refundable containers in a clear blue or white recycling bag (extras are at the office for you to pick up or are available beside the garbage bags in any super market)
- NO sorting needed! Glass, aluminum, plastic all together!
- Bring your filled bags to the depot and go to the "Express" section
- Print off as many labels as you need (maximum of 6 per day) using the Charles Best phone number for the account – 604 461-5581; the name attached to the account is Ja-Lynn McIntyre
- Place the label on the bag and drop it in the designated area

Look for more details in the New Year regarding specific weekend Bottle Drives or weekend dates where members of the After Grad Fundraising Committee will come to your house and pick up your bags. Thanks to everyone for your support!

COMMUNITY NEWS

SCIENCE EXPO 2018

<http://www.coqlibrary.ca/programs-events/children/sci-expo>

SCHOOL VANDAL WATCH

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/Lists/Community%20Listings/DispForm.aspx?ID=92&ContentTypeId=0x0100D6F3F1503DC68C49A3FCDCA149847341>



TRI-CITY EAGLES
FIELD HOCKEY CLUB
2018 SEASON REGISTRATION

Girls born 2000-2013 are invited to get involved in the second ranking sport in the world!

U-11 to U-18 teams compete in the Greater Vancouver Junior Field Hockey league from Mid-March to June. Season Fee \$135.

The Club also offers a Mini-Hockey Program for U-10 girls and boys (girls born 2008 - 2009 & mites born 2010 - 2013). Season fee for Minis & Mites is \$110.

We now offer a program for U-12 Boys (birthdates 2006-2009)

Registration information is on our website: www.tcfieldhockey.com

PLAYERS MUST FIRST REGISTER WITH FIELD HOCKEY BRITISH COLUMBIA to obtain a player identification number – required to complete registration with TC Field Hockey. See our website for details.

Registration Deadline U-11 to U-18: Returning Players and New Registrants THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST
A \$10 late fee will be charged after Feb. 1st if space is available.

Registration Deadline for U-10 players: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
A \$10 late fee will be charged after March 1st if space is available.

DROP IN & TRY IT SESSION!
Sunday, January 21
12-2pm • Cunnings Field
WEATHER PERMITTING
No registration required.
Participants are asked to arrive promptly at noon.

www.tcfieldhockey.com | 604-619-4034



Tri-Cities Early Years Centre

Become a Parent Connector Volunteer!



Are you a parent or grandparent who:

- lives in the Tri-Cities?
- likes working with young children?
- enjoys meeting people, and helping them to connect with others?
- can volunteer: 3 hours each week?
- If so, we'd like to hear from you!

Interested? Need more Information?

Please contact
Supriya Bhattacharyya
SHARE Family & Community Services
Phone: (604) 529-5117
E-mail: supriya.b@sharesociety.ca