



SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
(COQUITLAM)



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

WALTON ELEMENTARY

MARCH 3, 2014

ADVENTURES IN REPORT CARDS



**Last Day
before
Spring
Break is
Friday,
March 14th.
School Re-
Opens
Monday,
March 31st**

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Little Pear Garden Performance, March 6th
- 2nd Term Report Cards, Friday, March 14th.
- Spring Break, March 15- March 30th
- District Pro. D. April 11
- Good Friday, April 18
- Easter Monday, April 21

I thought I would share this story about report cards since they are coming out soon....

A long time ago (in a galaxy far, far away), I was challenged by a parent regarding his son's Grade Four report card. I was teaching a Grade Four class early in my career and the first term report cards had just gone home.

Grade Four is the first time that parents see an evaluation that they are more familiar with rather than the anecdotal primary reports. For many parents, it can be a shock.

This particular father immediately requested a meeting because he strongly disagreed with his son's letter grade. The child had received a C+ in language arts in October 1992. The parent wanted an **A** and nothing less. His son was a kind, diligent student who tried his best.

I began talking about ways to support his child's learning so that he does improve. The parent did not want to hear this. He wanted an **A** right now.

He was quite emotional when he described his future plans



for his child and how receiving such a letter grade would prevent him from entering medical school.

No kidding.

I assured him that universities do not request a fourth grade

transcript. This enraged him. I also mentioned that a C+ meant that his son had demonstrated a good understanding of concepts and materials we covered in class. This further enraged him. I assured him that his son had many years left in the public system to improve his grades. The parent became belligerent.

As he ranted on, my thoughts drifted off to think about all of the toys I didn't have as a child. Perhaps I smiled a bit in nostalgia but I was snapped back to reality when he began raising his voice, challenging me over the authenticity of the reporting.

I got up and walked over to a different child's desk and pulled out her writing folder. I knew that this child had demonstrated excellent achievement in writing. I placed her work in front of him and said, "This student got an **A**. Compare this to your son's writing."

He read her work and asked if she was in the same grade. I confirmed it. He became very quiet.

In one of the most unbelievable moments of my career, he pulled out his wallet and asked me if there was anything he could do to "help his son along."

I asked him to put his money away and that the letter grade reflected his son's current achievement in reading and writing.

He left the room and a week later, transferred his son to another school.



I reflected upon how teachers place the emphasis on a child's learning rather than haggling over letter grades. Perhaps I should have been in communication with the parent more frequently beforehand. The old analogy holds true in education, it's just as important on how you get there as the destination itself.

Thank you for taking the time to read.

Mr. C. Mah

WHAT'S GOING ON AT WALTON?

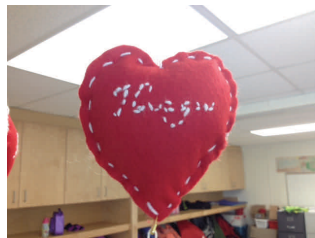
Life in 100 Years

The students in Ms. Wegrich's class have aged i100 years! Take a look at these images and stories posted outside of their classroom!



Hearts

Ms. Howey's class stitched



fabric hearts. The project tested the students creativity, dexterity and patience! Well done everyone!

Button Blankets

Mrs. Friend and Ms. Regan's class worked with our district



Aboriginal program to create these fabulous button blankets.

Drama

Mrs. Sluis works with Mrs. Suen's kindergarten class in drama. The photo was taken on Pink Shirt Day!



Artwork for Sip 'n Savour

Students in Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Shum's class work on art in support of the PAC Sip 'n Savour event.



Pink Shirt Day



Mrs. Stoody's Kindergarten class shows their support for Pink Shirt Day!

Como Lake Relays on Wednesday, April 16th, 3:00-5:00pm

PUBLIC SPEAKING FESTIVAL

Walton Elementary hosted two Public Speaking Festivals. Our school-based festival was on February 18th and the District Public Speaking Festival on February 27th. Judges for our school based festival included retired principals Mrs. Robb, Mr.



Farewell Mrs. Wilson

Mrs. Wilson, our Mandarin Language Teacher Assistant has transferred to Gleneagle Secondary School. Mrs. Wilson has provided great support for the Mandarin program over the years. She created the fantastic banners for the Lunar New Year concert. We wish Mrs. Wilson all the best.

A new Teacher Assistant will be named shortly. Thanks for all of your service Mrs. Wilson. All the best!

REPORTING ABSENCES

Did you know that you can report your child's absence on-line? Go to our website to find our "Absence Report" button.

This will save you from having to call the school in the morning. The link is open 24 hours and you can log absences in advance.

The forms are submitted to our office email inboxes.

The screenshot shows the website for Walton Elementary School, School District No. 43 (Coquitlam). The header includes the school logo and navigation links: Home, About Walton, Programs & Services, Staff, Parents, and Intranet. Below the navigation is contact information: 2960 Walton Ave Coquitlam BC, V3B 6V6. Phone: 604.941.1962. Fax: 604.937.8040. Email: walton@sd43.bc.ca. Office Hours: 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. The main content area features a 'Welcome to Our School' message and two prominent buttons: 'Parent eForms' and 'Absence Report'. There are also social media icons for Twitter and the Parent Advisory Council (PAC).

MANDARIN BILINGUAL

Friends.

The concept is universal.

The Chinese calligraphy is an example of the work done in Mrs. Suen and Mrs. Stody's kindergarten class.

As February is Random Acts of Kindness. It is wonderful to see this concept in Mandarin.



Did you know that we have a total of 80 Kindergarten (Neighbourhood and Mandarin) students registered for 2014-2015?

SNOW IN FEBRUARY

We experienced heavy snow-fall on Monday, February 24th. Families are asked to watch their email inbox or the school Twitter account for any weather related announcements. Weather can have a profound effect on the operation of our school and our aim is to provide families with as much information as

possible.

We also want to reduce the amount of phone calls to the school asking if we are open or not. As a general rule, schools are open.



@waltonsd43

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
(COQUITLAM)**

2960 Walton Avenue,
Coquitlam, BC, V3B 6V6

Phone: 604-941-1962

Fax: 604-937-8040

E-mail: walton@sd43.bc.ca

WELCOME TO WALTON
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL, WHERE WE
STRIVE TO CREATE A
CARING,
RESPECTFUL
COMMUNITY OF
LEARNERS. THE
SCHOOL COMMUNITY
IS FOCUSED ON
CREATING A
SOCIALY
RESPONSIBLE
SCHOOL CLIMATE TO
ENHANCE STUDENT
LEARNING

It's Time To kick It!



Kateslem United Soccer will be hosting 2 FREE soccer clinics!

Who: Girls and boys between age 5 to 14 attending school in Coquitlam

1st Clinic

When: Monday March 17th to Friday March 21st, 9:30 - 11:30am

Where: Banting School Outdoor Field

Registration: Tuesday March 4th or Wednesday March 5th, 3 - 5pm at Banting Middle School Office

2nd Clinic

When: Monday March 24th to Friday March 28th, 9:30 – 11:30am

Where: Summit Middle School Outdoor Field

Registration: Wednesday March 5th or Thursday March 6th, 3:30 - 5pm at Summit Middle School in the foyer

To register for either clinics proof of address will be required

For more information contact Karvn Bell at (604)250-9332



FREE EVENT - COME TRY RINGETTE!!

Register at: www.cometryringette.ca



Date: Sunday March 9th, 2014

Sign-in and Equipment Fitting: 4:00-4:30pm

Ice Time: 4:30-5:30pm

Place: Port Moody Arena #2, 300 Ioco Rd, Port Moody

For boys and girls ages 5-12

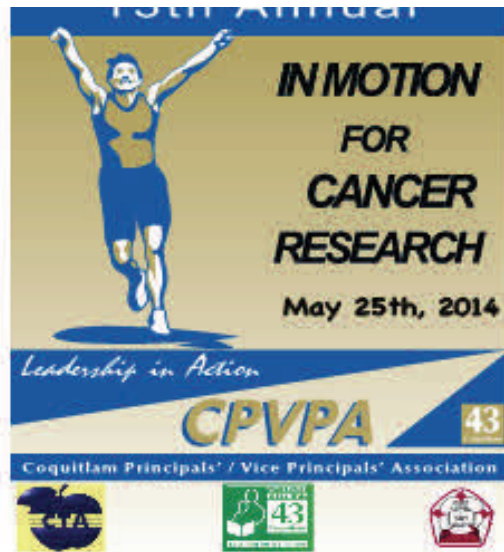
Equipment is available with pre-registration

Register for the upcoming season, visit: coqmoodyringette.com

Questions: cometryringette@coqmoodyringette.com

Hosted by the Coquitlam-Moody Ringette Association





Coquitlam Principal's and Vice-Principal's Association

13th Annual *In Motion* Event for Cancer Research

Dedicated to Tom Davies

The Coquitlam Principals and Vice Principals Association 13th Annual *In Motion* for Cancer Research event will be held Sunday, May 25th at 9:00 am at Terry Fox Secondary School. There are three routes for participants: 2km, 5km, and 10 km

Come run, walk, ride or roll with us!

This 13th anniversary year's event will be the best yet, with individuals and teams participating on behalf of members of the School District 43 family who have been affected by cancer. We have always enjoyed good staff and student participation and are hoping for another large turnout this year. In 12 years we have contributed over \$100,000 to the **Canadian Cancer Society**. Individual registration forms will be available soon at any school site/website or at the board office. Donations received at the door or online (site address announced soon) will be matched by Scotiabank up to \$5000

Feel free to join a school team or for more information about forming your own team contact Darlene Proulx by e-mail at dproulx@sd43.bc.ca or by phone at 604-941-3408



For 75 years, the Canadian Cancer Society has been with Canadians in the fight for life. We have been relentless in our commitment to prevent cancer, fund research and support Canadians touched by cancer. From this foundation, we will work with Canadians to change cancer forever so fewer Canadians are diagnosed with the disease and more survive.