



## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

### Introduction

Our school district is one of the largest in the lower mainland. With 66 schools and hundreds of volunteers we have proven over and over that knowledge is power and power is in numbers, something we as a district have an abundance of. With that we as your district representatives strive to do our best to inform parents and volunteers about up and coming events .

The executive committee for District 43 Parent Advisory Council has been working hard to bring forth the issues that are prominent in today 's school environment. With the participation of the school PACs in our district and our district school board members we strive to bring to the for-front the issues that concern parents today.

Please feel free to contact us with questions or ideas we welcome them all.

February 28, 2010



### What do you think?

As always, we'd love your feedback!

We're just starting up our DPAC newsletter again. What would you like to read about? What info do you need?

Let us know at [dpac43@telus.net](mailto:dpac43@telus.net)

### Up And Coming Parent Information

DPAC 43 will be hosting "**IN THE DRIVERS SEAT**". This will be a workshop for parents and teens and new young drivers. As the times change so do the regulations for new drivers.

The work shop will take place at the Winslow Center , Gallery Room.  
1100 Winslow Ave .Coquitlam.  
Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup>,2010.  
6:30pm-8:30pm

Registration is required by March 1 as space is limited. You can r.s.v.p by e-mail at; [Dpac43@telus.net](mailto:Dpac43@telus.net).

Pink shirt day is April 14<sup>th</sup>,2010. Show your support by wearing a pink shirt and join us as we will be hosting "**What to do when your child is being bullied : Strategies for parents**". This event is being presented at no cost to parents by Bully B'ware productions.

The work shop will take place at the Winslow Center , Gallery Room.  
1100 Winslow Ave .Coquitlam.  
Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup>,2010.  
7pm-8:30pm

Registration is required by April 1 as space is limited. You can r.s.v.p by e-mail at; [Dpac43@telus.net](mailto:Dpac43@telus.net).

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## **BCCPAC GENERAL MEETING AND SPRING CONFERENCE**

The British Columbia Confederation Of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC) will be holding their annual spring conference. Pac's in our district will receive a package in the mail with information and registration for the conference. DPAC reps have voiced their opinion in regards to the cost of the conference to each Pac. The issue of volunteers having to pay in order to attend these conferences has come up locally and provincially. At last years AGM a resolution was put forth to deal with this issue. The benefit of attending the conference far out way the one time cost. Each school has an opportunity for their voice to be heard and the AGM is the venue provided for it. There will be over 25 exhibitor's at the conference offering information on fund raising possibilities and government funded programs. Last years Pac attendance was well over 1000 strong.

The work shops offered contain brief but informative education for volunteers from how to take minutes to budgets, and media relations along with many other parent ed workshops. The networking alone is invaluable. Meeting people from districts through out British Columbia and sharing ideas and opinions and even making a friend or two. We would encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to be a part of the solutions that we face in these tough economic times. Hope to see you all there.

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### **Full day kindergarten**

DPAC executive was happy to host the full day kindergarten parent information night held January, 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010. With well over the 130 parents who had registered in attendance. Key note speakers touched on the importance of education and it's social benefits for growing young minds. We have put together a list of questions that were asked that night and are better equipped to help the next wave of kindergartners and parents when full day k comes into effect next September.

### **REMINDERS**

Make sure you are up to date with BCCPAC member registration and that your current contact information has been sent to DPAC.

### **Stop the Budget Cuts!**

We will be sending out a survey to all PACs in SD43 in response to the out cry over recent budget cuts.

Please take the time to fill out the survey as we would like to put together future proposals for change within the Ministry of Education. Your voice counts.

## Something to think about...

What does an "educated person" look like today? What are the skill, knowledge and qualities that we'd like to see in graduates from our schools?

Here's one version to think about (from <http://www.qcda.gov.uk>)



What do you think?

What do the other members of your PAC and parent community think?

Why not share this image with your teachers and administrator(s)?

And please let us know about your conversations!