



DPAC Newsletter

School District #43

June 2004

Volume 1, Number 8

"Our mission is to facilitate, support and advocate for the effective involvement of parents as partners working towards excellence in education."

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- August 23-25
Gordon Neufeld Workshop "The Teachability Factor"
Hillcrest Middle School
- September 29th
DPAC Orientation for PAC Chairs and DPAC Reps
Winslow Center
- October 27th
DPAC General Meeting 7pm
Gallery Room
Winslow Center

2004/2005 Executive

President	<i>Claude Hrycaiko</i>
Vice President	<i>Cindy Macie</i>
Secretary	<i>Celeste Dick</i>
Treasurer	<i>Dave Allen</i>
BCCPAC District Associate	<i>Sheila MacLean</i>
North Zone Rep	<i>Michelle Gillespie</i>
East Zone Rep	<i>Kerry van Aswegan</i>
Member @ Large	<i>Rosanna von Sacken</i>
Past President	<i>Linda Reimer</i>
Administrative Assistant	<i>Sandy Maloney</i>

A number of DPAC Executive positions remained unfilled post-election: Newsletter Editor; Volunteer Coordinator; Parent Education Coordinator; Health & Safety Coordinator; South Zone Rep; West Zone Rep; Member at Large (one additional position). If you are interested in any of these positions please contact the DPAC office for job descriptions and nomination procedures.

Please seriously consider running for a DPAC Executive position. Although it is a huge volunteer commitment, it increases your awareness of issues that affect children in all of our schools, and will broaden your perspective significantly.



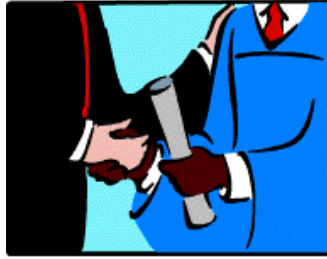
DPAC Fall Orientation



Watch your school mail and e-mail for details and registration information for the DPAC Orientation for PAC Chairs and DPAC Reps in the fall. This all-day session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 29th, at Winslow Center in the Gallery Room. Please make sure that you update the DPAC office as soon as possible with 2004/05 contact information for your PAC. You wouldn't want to miss out on this excellent introductory parent education session.

SD #43

- Board Meetings
2004
7:30 pm
June 22
September 14
550 Poirier St.
Coquitlam



New Grad Requirements Session

On Thursday, May 27th, DPAC and SD#43 co-sponsored this parent education evening at Winslow Center. It was well attended by 45 to 50 parents. Presenters from SD#43 were Maureen Dockendorf,

Bob King, Brian Leonard and Rob Rankin. Rosanna von Sacken, presented from the DPAC 43 Executive.

Topics included ideas and information from recent conferences related to public education and a report on the New Graduation Requirements that come into effect this fall. More information sessions on graduation and portfolio requirements may be scheduled in the fall.

Making Connections 2004

This 7th annual conference will focus on a systemic, school-wide approach to creating a safe and caring school culture. The conference will explore approaches and practices that schools and districts have been using to develop and implement plans for enhancing student achievement and social responsibility. It is of interest to educators, parents and community partners in education. Maureen Dockendorf, SD#43 Director of Instruction, and Janice Coomer, SD#43 BC Safe Schools & Communities Contact, will be two of a host of informative speakers.



The conference takes place November 4th and 5th from 8 am to 4 pm at the Ramada Park Plaza/Vancouver Airport and Conference Resort in Richmond. For further information contact Kathy Champion 604-668-6063 or email



kchampion@richmond.sd38.bc.ca .

Congratulations SLC

DPAC would like to offer our congratulations to all of the recently elected SD#43 Student Leadership Council (SLC) members.

President: Seyoon Chung (Pinetree Secondary) (Gr.12)

Vice-President: Marco Chan (Port Moody Secondary) (Gr.11)

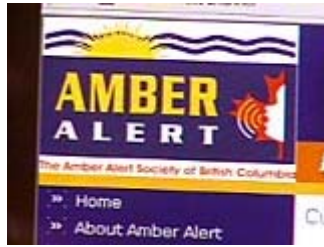
Vice-President: Chris Sandve (Riverside Secondary) (Gr.12)

Secondary at large: Samantha Wan (Heritage Woods Secondary) (Gr.9)

Secondary at large: Omar Chatur (Port Moody Secondary) (Gr.9)

The SLC hopes to continue its focus on Student Asset Building in 2004/05 and DPAC wishes them every success.

Amber Alert



Our school district will join other districts from around the province in supporting and participating in the Amber Alert Program. This program is based on a U.S. model and is deployed in the case of children abducted by strangers. Mass

communication is issued in the crucial first few hours of an abduction. If a child is abducted, a special emergency message is broadcast on radio and TV, highway signs will flash the information, and the alert will be posted to the system's website. This program does not replace the current RCMP incident fan-out system but supplements it.



"The Teachability Factor"

A reminder to register by June 15th in order to qualify for a special DPAC subsidy for this conference. For more information about the keynote speaker, Dr. Gordon Neufeld, or about the content of the course, consult Dr. Neufeld's website www.gordonneufeld.com.

Monday, August 23rd to
Wednesday, August 25th, 2004
Hillcrest Middle School
2161 Regan Ave., Coquitlam
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

For questions about registration or the subsidy, please contact DPAC at 604-939-3690 or dpac43@telus.net



Celebrating the Mosaic

Five SD#43 DPAC Executive members were among the 500 people who attended the BCCPAC conference and AGM in Burnaby, May 13th to May 16th.



Highlights of the conference included: a performance by Art Start, an innovative, creative, student dance group; Godwin Eni, President of the Vancouver Multicultural Society, who spoke on Diversity and Multiculturalism in Schools – Individual and Group Strategies for Parent Involvement; and two DPAC chairpersons round table discussions – one with Education Minister Tom Christensen on the topic of School Planning Councils and notional funding and the other with BCTF president Neil Worboys.

The next BCCPAC Leadership Conference is

"Building Excellence with Best Practices"

November 4th to 7th, 2004

in Abbotsford at the Ramada Inn.

Tidbits

Healthy Choices Action

In response to the Pitt River Middle motions, that passed at the April 28th General Meeting, the DPAC Executive will be making a presentation to the Board of Trustees at their June 22nd Board Meeting.



DPAC Executive Retreat

Every year in June, the newly elected DPAC Executive holds an all-day planning session called the Executive Retreat. This is a chance for the Executive to review the past year and plan for the next. Goals are formulated based on the results of the DPAC "Tell Us How We Are Doing" member PAC survey and feedback from the May AGM. This year's retreat is scheduled for June 16th.

DPAC 43 Advocacy Project

We now have five Advocates available to parents for consultation. We have representatives from elementary, middle, and secondary communities. Services are currently available in English and two Chinese dialects.



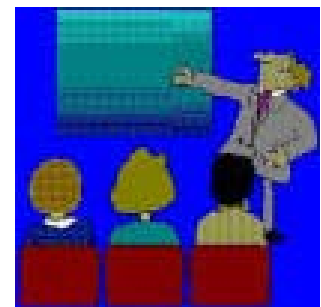
SD 43 Pilot



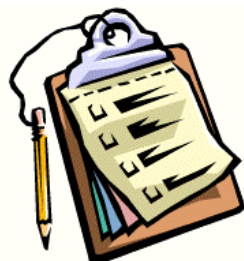
SD#43 will be one of five districts in the province to pilot the new provincial Student Information System called BCeSIS. The pilot should begin by March 2005, and a district steering committee has been formed to guide the process.

SD#43 Learning Teams

Did you know that this year, 24 learning teams were created throughout the District to support ongoing improvement of instruction and student achievement? In these teams, teachers met monthly to plan, design, research, evaluate, and to support one another in reflecting on, changing and assessing their own practice. There were 18 school-based teams and 6 District teams, each chose a different focus for their group. Topics included such issues as social justice, numeracy, teachability, student social responsibility and student engagement. The Learning Team project was a huge success and



teams hope to continue their collaborative efforts next year.



Achieve BC - Bringing Out the Best

Two brochures are available: "Choosing a School in B.C. – A Checklist for Parents" and "Developing More Choices within the K – 12 Public Education System". Go to their website www.gov.bc.ca and link to Achieve BC.

2004
School Calendar:

June 30
Administrative Day
Schools Close for
Summer

September 7
Schools re-open

District 43 Parent
Advisory Council
1100B Winslow Ave.
Coquitlam, BC
V3J 2G3

Phone:
(604) 939-3690
Fax:
(604) 939-3695
email:
dpac43@telus.net

Newsletter Editor:
Cindy Macie

We are on the
Web!
www.dpac.citysoup.ca

DPAC
ADVOCACY HOTLINE:
604-939-0111



School Community News

e-race is a site-specific performance work to be presented by MISCELLANEOUS Productions outside the Richmond Cultural Centre and across from the Richmond RCMP Headquarters.

e-race will explore young people's obsession with fast cars, speed, street-racing and amphetamine-based drugs including crystal methadone and ecstasy. e-race will also examine the erasure of race in the media that many youth feel when these cases of "speed" are discussed.

e-race Focus Groups for Youth aged 15 to 26 years old:

Gateway Theatre- *Wed. July 21, 2004* from 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Richmond Cultural Centre Café - *Wed. Aug. 18, 2004* from 7 - 9 PM

e-race Community Forum on Speed in Young Lives - street-racing, speeding in cars and amphetamine-based drug use:

Richmond Cultural Centre Lecture Hall -

Thurs. Sept. 30, 2004 from 6:30 - 9 PM

If you have any questions, or would like further information about e-race, contact Elaine Carol, Artistic Director MISCELLANEOUS Productions 604-873-6522 or e-mail elaine-c@mdi.ca.



Science Alive, a non-profit organization run by SFU students, is looking for families in the Tri-City area to act as hosts for two aboriginal students working as camp instructors for 8 weeks in July and August. This is part of a special Aboriginal Mentorship program for high school students in the Queen Charlotte Islands. Contact Brian Newbold, Outreach Coordinator, 604-291-5912 or by e-mail at sciencealive@sfu.ca.

Girl Guides of Canada – Coquitlam River District

is looking for adult leaders for its Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders, and Senior Branches. If you are interested in joining this vibrant and energetic organization contact Sandy at 604-941-4575.

The DPAC Newsletter is distributed via email and is also available on our website at www.dpac.citysoup.ca in the "What's New" section. PACs can print out copies for circulation as needed.

This is the last newsletter for this school year. As yet, we do not have a Newsletter Editor for next year. If you are interested in this, or any other DPAC Executive position, please contact the DPAC office. Hopefully, the newsletter will be back again in the fall...

Have a safe and enjoyable
summer break!

