



*Did you know:*

In School District 43  
approximately 30,000  
students attend:

[45 Elementary Schools](#)

[13 Middle Schools](#)

[9 Secondary Schools](#)

School District #43  
DPAC

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[www.dpac43.org](http://www.dpac43.org)

Advocacy Info Line:  
1-888-351-9834

or visit the BCCPAC –  
Advocacy web page at:

[www.bccpac.bc.ca/advocacy/Advocacy-Main.htm](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/advocacy/Advocacy-Main.htm)

## 2007 – 2008 DPAC Executive

President	Richard Stewart
Secretary	Karmin Patak
Treasurer	Darren Rosenthal
Parent Education Coordinator	Jason Turner
Newsletter Editor	Tracy Crawford
East Zone Rep	Dina Rodriguez
Member @ Large	Heidi Gable
Past President	Claude Hrycaiko
Administrative Assistant	Sandy Maloney

The below DPAC Executive positions still require representation:

- Vice President
- Health & Safety Coordinator
- Member @ Large – 2<sup>nd</sup> position
- South, North and West Zone Rep's



**Play a big part in your child's education  
become a DPAC Executive Volunteer**

If you are interested in representing DPAC please contact Sandy, DPAC Executive Assistant for information or for a volunteer application form at 604-939-3690 or email [dpac43@telus.net](mailto:dpac43@telus.net)

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Education for School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Tom Grant as Superintendent of Schools, effective January 1, 2008.

Mr. Grant is currently Associate Superintendent of Schools for School District No. 39 (Vancouver) and has held this position for the past nine years.

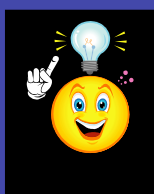
Prior to his district leadership roles, Mr. Grant had been a principal and vice-principal for ten years and a classroom teacher for eleven.

DPAC executive participated in the review of candidates for superintendent, and we want to acknowledge the School Board's decision to include their partners in the selection process for this important position

**Welcome Mr. Grant!**

We welcome your feedback.

Please email us any comments, suggestions or great ideas you would like to see in our newsletter.



Keep checking in on our website – [www.dpac43.org](http://www.dpac43.org)

We continually post information and updates that may be valuable for you.

## NUTRITION NEWS

Nutrition has become one of the biggest topics of discussions in our schools today. We all want our kids to be healthy but what does that mean for schools and PAC's when it comes to fundraising and cafeteria food?

As you may know, the Ministry of Education has mandated better nutrition for all foods sold to students in our schools, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Now information and access to helpful resources and tools are just a call or click away with Dial-A-Dietitian. It's easy to use and the information is readily available for you.

Call Dial-A-Dietitian at 604-732-6191 or visit them online at [www.dialadietitian.org](http://www.dialadietitian.org) (available in 130 languages). Phone line is open Monday to Friday from 9am – 5pm.

For a list of food and beverages that meet the BC Guidelines visit [www.brandnamefoodlist.ca](http://www.brandnamefoodlist.ca)

For guidance on vending healthy packaged food items? Visit [www.brandnamefoodlist.ca](http://www.brandnamefoodlist.ca)

**These websites offer valuable and informative information. Check them out and encourage parents in your school to visit the sites as well.**

## School Traffic Safety Survey

Traffic safety is one of those important issues that affect students, and many parents have serious concerns about the safety of their children on their way to school.

DPAC wants to find out more about the traffic issues that affect our students at each school in our District. The few minutes it will take you to describe your experience and concerns related to your child's school will greatly help us to identify concerns and proposed measures that will improve the safety of our children. The results for each school will be provided to the Parent Advisory Council at that school, and the District's results will also be presented to the School Board, and to those responsible for traffic design and enforcement in our communities.

Go to [www.dpac43.org](http://www.dpac43.org) and click on the link to the **Traffic Safety Survey** at the top right corner of our Home Page

Thank you for taking the time to complete this very important safety survey.

A parent is the first and best teacher for children. Parent education is a crucial step in the development of the whole child.

The parent and teacher's collaborative partnership is vital for our children's education.

## **BCCPAC FALL CONFERENCE**

The conference took place last month (November) in Victoria where 152 parents attended; 8 of which were from School District 43.

BCCPAC vision is to improve public education for all students by including and supporting parents.

The aim of BCCPAC Fall Leadership Conference is to empower parents' leadership through parent involvement, to support student's success in education, and allow parents to acquire the basic knowledge and facilitating skills for PAC/DPAC/BCCPAC meetings.

Below are some highlights of the conference:

### **The Social Bully**

- Breaking the cycle of violence in our homes, schools and communities involves more than merely identifying and stopping the bully. It requires that we examine the why and the how a child becomes a bully or the target of a bully (and sometimes both) and the role of bystanders. author [Barbara Coloroso](#)

### **Goal Learn Now BC**

- Distributed Learning, a term that encompasses a range of on-line course offerings, or words to that effect. Distributed learning offers the chance for children to have more flexibility and choice in learning. Children who want extra challenges and children who have been labelled as learning disabled may both benefit from courses that are not available locally.

### **ESL Research Finding**

**Some hard and troubling facts were identified regarding ESL in our schools, these include:**

- Without adequate support and no ESL training, more than 60% ESL students represent a problem.
- A number of teachers reported that they thought ESL services were inadequate to support the number of students in their schools.
- Teachers reported that they thought ESL support did not last long enough and was inadequate in scope.
- Teachers in high ESL classrooms generally felt overwhelmed by the challenges they perceived in the diversity of abilities that their students represented

### **Immigration Statistics:**

- Close to 70,000 immigrant children and youth aged 0-24 arrived in BC over the past 5 years.
- Coquitlam - 580% increase in ESL in the 1990's – currently 10% of the entire district is ESL
- Surrey – 30% of elementary students are ESL / 10% of secondary students

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- Burnaby – 25% of elementary school students -10% of high school students, Vancouver – 52% of elementary school students / 56% of high school students & Richmond – 60% ESL
- Future immigration projection to BC within the next 5 years– 60,000+ immigrants of which 24,000 could be children and youth – equal to almost half the Vancouver school district

Consider attending the 2008 BCCPAC AGM next spring, which will feature more programs to help parents provide the best support to students and their schools. For more information regarding the BCCPAC conference please visit [www.bccpac.bc.ca](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca)

SPLSS (Supporting Parent Leadership Seminar Series) is pleased to announce the candidates selected from School District #43:

1. Szu-Ying Lee
2. Scott Young
3. Nina Hansen
4. Christine McKinnon

They have already successfully completed their first session and over the next year and a half will complete three more training sessions before they complete the program.

Congratulations to all of you.

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## INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Questions have been raised about school guidelines when it comes to the student's use of internet/email at school. For detailed information please visit any of the following links. If you have further questions please contact DPAC.

Detailed information can be found at the following links:

1) the actual policy is AP140 and can be found at:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/files/File/public/Board%20Business/Administrative%20Procedure%20s/100%20General%20Administration/Administrative%20Procedure%20140.pdf>

2) a brochure called "Appropriate Use For Internet Guidelines" can be found at:

[http://www.sd43.bc.ca/files/File/public/General\\_Info/Policy%20and%20Procedure/Appropriate%20Use%20Guidelines%20for%20Internet.pdf](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/files/File/public/General_Info/Policy%20and%20Procedure/Appropriate%20Use%20Guidelines%20for%20Internet.pdf)

3) a brochure called "Appropriate Use For Email Guidelines" can be found at:

[http://www.sd43.bc.ca/files/File/public/General\\_Info/Policy%20and%20Procedure/Appropriate%20Use%20Guidelines%20for%20Emails%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/files/File/public/General_Info/Policy%20and%20Procedure/Appropriate%20Use%20Guidelines%20for%20Emails%20(2).pdf)

4) Form acknowledging parental approval for use of internet/email in the schools

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/files/File/public/Board%20Business/Administrative%20Forms/100%20General%20Admin/F140-1%20Student%20Internet%20Register>

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## ***HAVE A SCHOOL EVENT TO PROMOTE?***



**TELL US  
ABOUT IT!**

Send a brief description of your event including place, date, time, and theme of your event. We will do our best to include your event into our monthly newsletter.

Please ensure you submit your event 2 weeks prior to publication date. Email event details to [dpac43@telus.net](mailto:dpac43@telus.net)

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The DPAC newsletter is distributed via email and is available on our website at [www.dpac43.org](http://www.dpac43.org)

To add yourself to the email distribution list please forward your email address to [dpac43@telus.net](mailto:dpac43@telus.net)

On behalf of DPAC Executive we would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday season.