

## Superintendent's Report to DPAC

June 15, 2015

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**Student Services In-Service Sessions** for the coming school year are being planned for teachers and support staff. Each year, sessions are offered on a variety of topics. In the coming school year, some topics include:

- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Training
- Self-Regulation in the Classroom
- The New Curriculum
- Innovative Use of Technology to Support Learning
- Demystifying Learner Differences: Differentiating the Curriculum
- Physical Classroom Environments to Optimize Learning
- Engaging and Motivating Students Through Universal Design for Learning
- Suicide Prevention
- Level B Assessments

Student Services will also offer sessions on select topics that specific schools identify. On-going opportunities to learn together is an important goal in the Student Learning Services Department and now with common professional days throughout the District, there is a greater opportunity for staff from schools throughout the District to collaborate and learn together.

**Parent Information and Networking Sessions** are being planned for the coming school year in collaboration with the District Parents' Advisory Council. Your Executive will be asking parents for topics of interest. Some topics identified so far include:

- Individual Education Plans and the Assessment Process
- Parents' Resource Guide to Special Education: Review

We're thinking of offering four sessions throughout the coming school year. The dates and topics will be distributed soon.

**Teaching and Learning in Diverse Classrooms Working Group:** The Working Group finished the second set of "Touch Back" sessions with all education partner groups and is now in the process of prioritizing the feedback and preparing a draft report with the findings. This draft report will be distributed for further consultation after the Board receives the report at the Education Policy and Planning Committee meeting in September.

We would like to thank all those who participated in this interesting and important process that will set the direction for teaching and learning in our schools.

**Human Resources Department:** We have now completed three rounds of teacher postings covering ninety-four teaching positions. We anticipate one more round before the school year wraps up and then when we return in September, we will fill any last minute openings that may have arisen over the summer (e.g. maternity leaves, etc.). Thirty-two support staff positions have been posted and we are in the process of filling all those positions well before the end of June.

The district honored those district employees who have retired, or who are retiring this school year, at a retirement dinner and reception held at the Inn at New Westminster Quay on Tuesday, June 9th. Superintendent Gaipman and Board Chair Campbell shared stories with each retiree and many a laugh was enjoyed by those in attendance. Fourteen employees were honored at the event which was attended by a number of Board members, school principals, and district staff, as well as the NWTU and CUPE Presidents.

**Financial Services:** Finance continues to receive questions around Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requirements for issuing charitable donation receipts. The school district is required to issue receipts in accordance with CRA rules and regulations. This is a requirement for all charitable organizations and is not a change as a result of the district's decision to wind down the Royal City Education Foundation (RCEF) as a separate legal entity. Additional information around charitable receipts can be found on the CRA web site at <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/chrts-gvng/chrts/prtng/gftng-rcptng-eng.html>. These requirements have been shared with principals and they can answer any questions PACs might have around specific fund-raising events.

**Facilities and Operations:** The maintenance department has confirmed the Annual Facilities Grant works plan as well as the summer works plan. The roofing tenders for Connaught, Spencer and Queen Elizabeth close on June 15th. The old boilers have been removed at Connaught and Howay and new high efficient condensing boilers will be installed prior to the fall heating season. We will also be replacing up to twenty stand-alone conventional furnaces with high efficiency types over the next ten months. Direct digital controls will be upgraded to support the efficiency upgrades. The electrical department has QMS, Glenbrook and Howay schools 100% converted to LED lighting as of this week and will complete Connaught, Lord Kelvin and Hume park yet this year. The maintenance department is working at Qayqayt Elementary in the Neighbourhood Learning Centre areas to support the program requirements. We are also shifting our focus to the new middle school and the administration building projects requirements. The custodial summer work schedule has been shared with the CUPE Local 409.

Respectfully,

John Gaipman