

# School District 42

## Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows

### Year in Review 2010/2011

- **Getting to Excellence**
- It is important that we take time to celebrate all that we have accomplished as we come to the end of another year.
- Although there have been many distractions from our main focus (students first), there have also been countless accomplishments that have assisted us in moving along the path to excellence for the students in our care.

# What are the big rocks?

- We have grouped our accomplishments into several areas, some more directly linked to student learning than others.
- It is important to note however that each and every one of our accomplishments in some way contributes to student learning be it overtly or behind the scenes building positive culture.

# Areas of Focus

- Board Work
- Leadership Capacity
- Educational Initiatives & Programs
- Budget
- Public Relations
- Facilities
- Human Resources
- Community

# Board Work

- Board has continued its work on its Goals and again, in the Fall will begin the planning for the review and update for the coming year
- The Board Policy Development Committee (BPDC) has begun its work to bring all existing policies to a level of relevancy and currency
- The Board successfully transitioned the closing of two elementary schools to their new uses for education programs
- The Board's negotiator has commenced bargaining with our two unionized employee groups (MRTA and CUPE)

# Board Work (cont'd)

- The Board through intensive consultation and discussion, balanced its 2011-2012 Operating Budget with input from Trustees, Senior Team, Partners and the Public
- The Board approved, after extensive research and consultation, the Environment School Program with a place based, hands on, approach. This is in partnership (partial funding) with SFU's research department and involves many partners in the community.
- The Board has created an annual review of the facilities utilization to ensure the District's accommodation needs for students and programs are met

# Board Work (cont'd)

- The Board supports the continuing work to improve and enhance its financial reporting through the use of the My Budget File and the Activity Based Budgeting and Accounting systems
- The Board conducted a thoroughly researched review of the options for a Local Calendar and consulted with all parties before adopting a district-wide calendar for next year

# Leadership Capacity

- Think Tank – Worked with a group of Administrators and Teachers on the topic of Report Card assessment practices.
- Provincial leader in Safety Plan Development – provided provincial training to over 20 districts
- Revamped purpose and structure of Summer School

# Leadership Capacity (cont'd)

- Developed a number of shared leadership opportunities for Principals ,Vice Principals and Teachers including the full day kindergarten initiative, grade one project, inquiry learning project, etc.
- Offered a Teacher Leadership Series with over 40 teachers involved throughout the year.

# Leadership Capacity (cont'd)

- Supported schools and teachers to create dynamic professional development learning opportunities during our common days.
- Successful Student Support Services (SSS) Audit that had the best results of the entire Province
- Successful DL Audit with recommendations to be implemented
- New online registration system for all district learning events
- Developed a Data Review and Reporting Committee that is responsible for a major shift in elementary reporting practices

# Leadership Capacity (cont'd)

- Improved the Teacher Mentorship Program that included closer ties to the MRTA and K-12 Reporting
- Created a 3 Year Technology and Learning Plan for the district. This planning process included an official MRTA committee.
- All Common Pro-D Days were highly successful with local teachers providing much of the sessions for their colleagues

# Leadership Capacity (cont'd)

- Completed the Fraser Network Leadership program that began last year with 20 principals/vice-principals
- Established an Emergency Operations Centre Management Plan
- Created first half of “Walking the Talk” document aligned to last year’s District Leadership Vision
- Provided a Hands On Workshop for all administrators to begin to use the tools for the 21<sup>st</sup> century to model good practice

# Educational Initiatives & Programs

- Coordinated a year-long series of professional development activities.
- Created a Secondary Apprenticeship Facilitator position with grant money
- Summer Learning – Revisited and restructured Summer Learning to focus on our “vulnerable” students.
- Improved capacity in Positive Behaviour Support for students in every Secondary School

# Educational Initiatives & Programs (cont'd)

- Offered training programs in safety, autism, hearing and other topics for SEAs through a provincial training grant from SSEAC
- Provided the BCCASE cornerstone workshops and on-line modules to increase capacity for support teachers
- Maintained improved graduation rates in LD and Behaviour (now above provincial average in both areas)
- Offering summer institutes for teachers and/or administrators in Special Education, Assessment and Autism

# Educational Initiatives & Programs (cont'd)

- Positive implementation of the first phase of full day kindergarten.
- In-serviced 57 kindergarten teachers and 63 grade one teachers on why we need to revisit how we teach young children.
- Developed an SD42 kindergarten/early learning interactive website
- SD42 Hosted 43 Ready Set Learn events for young children and their families.

# Educational Initiatives & Programs (cont'd)

- Worked with the district occupational therapy team to develop a physical development rubric
- Registered 61 students for the Environmental School project and hired 3 teachers and 1 SEA to work in the project.
- SD42 was invited to participate in the Ministry webinar on Project based learning
- Doubled the Reading Racers Program for the 2010-11 school year (this summer)
- Participated in the Ministry/Metro grade 3-4 Reading Project

# Educational Initiatives & Programs (cont'd)

- Created the 'Math in Motion' summer program for grade 4 students
- Worked with Secondary Facilitators to implement the new Math curriculum
- Created a district wide text to speech server (Kurzweil) so that all students can utilize this powerful learning aid
- Piloted SMART Student Response systems for Formative Assessment
- Coordinated the initial move toward Fine Arts prep in SD42

# Educational Initiatives & Programs (cont'd)

- Supported the SMART Learning district wide initiative
- Expanded the grade 8 laptop program
- Distributed 30 laptops to students with learning disabilities through the Lap Top Project
- Received a Ministry grant to pilot Lexia reading program – implemented in 4 schools as a trial
- Developed an on-line IEP format that will allow all IEPs to be stored centrally

# Educational Initiatives & Programs (cont'd)

- Created an iPod grade 3-4 Literacy Program.
- Continued to Refine our Student Inquiry Project.
- Created the Secondary iPad Project
- Completed library system upgrade which included a student friendly and engaging interface. This new library system also fully integrated the ERAC online databases

# Budget

- Reorganized and cleaned up all IT leasing budgets
- Created an SD42 process for equitably allocating SEA time within budget which has been adopted by many districts in the province

# Public Relations

- Revisioned the community literacy plan
- Implemented a web site for SSS that includes a parent site
- In addition to Inclusive Education Committee, launched the Parent Information Evening on Transitions, which will be one of a 4 part series next year
- Successfully launched new parent magazine. First full year included more than forty stories touching on all aspects of learning in SD42

# Public Relations (cont'd)

- Used website and survey techniques to ensure maximum participation by community in Future of Learning forum
- Implemented survey that engaged more than 2,000 parents, students and staff in decision around school calendar.
- Published first issues of Milestones, new internal newsletter acknowledging employee service
- Produced parent friendly versions of annual achievement contract and year in review documents

# Public Relations (cont'd)

- Updated look and feel of website
- Added online registration capability to website for use by StrongStart and other events for community
- Finalized process to determine new district catch phrase
- Implemented the use of twitter to spread district news
- Added newsletter capability to website- subscribers will receive electronic update of everything new on website

# Facilities

- Reviewed, and implemented new plans for Riverside Center, the old Mount Crescent, Connex, Storefront, District Education Office, and the Alouette River Campus site

# Human Resources

- Fully implemented Employee Recognition Program (1, 10, 20, 25, 35 year milestones)
- Sufficiently enriched casual complement of SEA/Clerical/LHS/TOC staff to meet needs
- Successfully staffed five administrative vacancies with quality applicants
- Organized successful joint CUPE/MRTA professional development days working collaboratively with both Unions

# Human Resources (cont'd)

- Made enhancements to New Worker Orientation program.
- Improved Information Systems which included:
  - Addition of Custodial/Maintenance staff to automated dispatch
  - Seniority call-out module upgrade for increased efficiency
  - Electronic staff notifications (CUPE) to payroll (full launch Sept/11)
  - Ready for “Job Posting Web” – online job shopping/application process.

# Community

- Liaised with RCMP to refine/rewrite procedures and protocol for Critical Incidents.
- Partnered with School District 43 and SFU to provide an early learning graduate diploma program
- Continued and enhanced the school/community garden program resulting in ten schools now having gardens.
- Continued the success of the Community Hive at Eric Langton Elementary

# Community (cont'd)

- Teamed with Child and Youth Mental Health to provide training for teachers, counsellors and community members in topics such as anxiety and suicide prevention
- Developed a working committee with Child and Youth Mental Health to look at service delivery options for elementary age children with mental health issues
- Coordinated the "Speak Up" Survey

# The Year in Review

Although this is not a complete list of things that were accomplished this year, it clearly shows that we have great people working towards providing the best services for the kids in our district.

We have reason to be proud!