



## NORTH VANCOUVER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44

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February 10, 2009

Dear Parents and Community Members:

Subject: Community Meetings – Capital Projects – Carson Graham, Ridgeway, and Queen Mary Schools – February 5, 2009

Thank you to everyone who came out to learn more and share their thoughts on the recently announced Capital Projects for Ridgeway, Queen Mary and Carson Graham Schools last Thursday evening at Ridgeway and Sutherland Schools. We are grateful to have been awarded \$70 million dollars of Ministry funds for the seismic upgrades and replacement schools in addition to our partnership with the City of North Vancouver to assist us with the costs of Heritage Restoration.

Not only do we appreciate the input we received from the students, parents and staff from the schools named in these projects, we also appreciate the input from Ridgeway Annex, Balmoral, Cloverley and all feeder schools who will be equally affected.

We have taken the feedback from the February 5, 2009 public information / consultation meeting and will devise a plan for moving forward with these projects. Our website will be regularly updated.

These Capital projects are different from our recent new school openings such as Westview, Sutherland, and soon to be Highlands capital projects, because we are not afforded the opportunity to build an entirely new school adjacent to the old school where the students, parents, and staff can still attend. The Ridgeway, Queen Mary, and Carson Graham projects will require that all or some of the students be moved from their school during the duration of the construction. Not only will this disrupt the students currently in these schools, but also the schools and buildings where the students will be moved to.

We will work with any displaced program or service to identify opportunities for accommodation in one or some of our buildings that will have space available. This process is currently underway. However, we believe that if we look at the long term picture of building three new schools, and work together over the transition process, the outcome will be fabulous for our community and the future direction of the School District.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Thornthwaite  
Chairperson  
Board of Education

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