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School District 43 is going Green! *"Food isn't waste, so put it in its place"*

Starting January 2015, School District No.43 (Coquitlam) is joining Municipalities, public and private organizations throughout Metro Vancouver to reduce waste in local landfills. School District No.43 (Coquitlam) is taking action and enforcing the mandate of recycling all organic waste in all District schools, buildings and locations.

This initiative stems from the 2011 Metro Vancouver mandate outlining that all organic materials, including food, food scraps, food-soiled papers and packaged food will be banned in local landfills starting January 2015. Many School District No.43 (Coquitlam) schools have already made the shift thanks to the support of local Municipalities and the initiative of staff, parents, and administrators who have championed individual initiatives in their school communities, and remaining schools are presently engaged in the planning and implementation process. School District No.43 (Coquitlam) is excited to ensure the public and surrounding community that the entire district is compliant with Metro Vancouver standards as we enter the New Year.

Bins are presently being rolled out, and staff and students are preparing for the changes. Important in the process is shifting behavior. To do this, the Board of Education is proud to support this "Organic Recycling Awareness Campaign" in this campaign we will disseminate information via school newsletter, social media, digital creatives and scheduled "green focused" events. This campaign will focus on informing students, parents, staff and the community about the on-going effort our schools are contributing to this mandate.

Currently, schools have already started to receive resources, including printable visuals and literature around organic recycling and have been encouraged to create campaigns that generate awareness and motivation in their school community. Please contact your school administrator if you would like to volunteer to support your neighbourhood school with their green waste transition.

Please watch for further information around our Organic waste recycling implementation in your school's newsletter, on the District website, and in local media.

Dave Sands, Coquitlam School District Manager of Energy & Sustainability

"This transition to Organic Waste recycling in our schools is an excellent opportunity for students, staff and parents to become more aware of our daily waste and how to dispose of it in a socially responsible way."

Tom Grant, Coquitlam School District Superintendent of Schools

"The Board of Education at School District No.43 (Coquitlam) is excited to see the changes being made in all of our schools and buildings as it creates a brighter and sustainable future for generations of students and individuals for years to come. "

For additional information, please contact:

Dave Sands, Manager Energy & Sustainability

School District No.43 (Coquitlam)

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