

1. Successful Administrator Learning Without Boundaries sessions were held on August 25 & 26. The two-day event highlighted presentations by Dr. Gwendolyn Point on Mental Health, Well-being and First People's Principals of Learning, and Shane Safir on Equity, Pedagogy and School Transformation. In addition to these amazing keynote speakers, district leadership shared practical information on school Action Plans for Learning, school start-up and COVID-19 safety protocols for the new year.

Thank you to all the district administrators for their hard work in preparing for a successful start up of the school year.

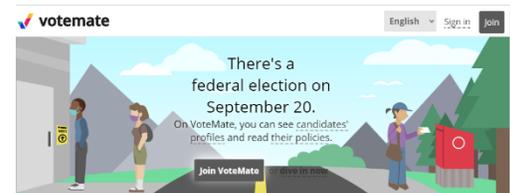
2. On July 17th, Riverside Secondary School alum Ryan Pless challenged chemistry and physics teacher Jeremy Brown to a Jiu jitsu fundraising battle event to fulfill his capstone requirement for graduation. Both have been training partners at Ascension Martial Arts in Port Coquitlam and were happy to have raised \$5,740 to support Sunny Hill Health Centre at BC Children's Hospital, a centre providing rehabilitative and specialized developmental services to BC children and youth.



Image Credits: Tri-City News

3. Former Inquiry Hub student Laef Kucheran created Votemate, a non-partisan website that helps people to learn about the upcoming federal elections by comparing parties and candidates based on their policies and candidate profiles.

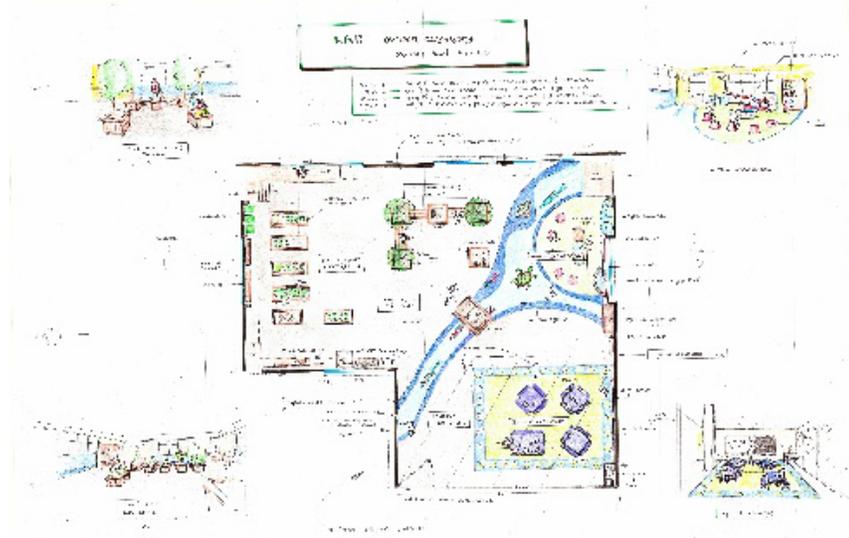
Visit <https://votemate.org/>



4. The Lord Baden Powell (LBP) Elementary School community has now transformed their outdoor courtyard into a new outdoor classroom.

With the coordination of the Parent Advisory Council and the generous donation of \$10,000 from the Coquitlam Royal Canadian Legion, the school is thrilled to be learning outdoors with their new wheelchair accessible picnic tables and benches and two large white boards.

A mural was also painted by artist Laura Johnson who collaborated with Cree artist, Jeska Slater, Kwantlen First Nation youth artist, Elinor Atkins and Katzie youth, Carlyn Andres showcasing Indigenous art welcoming the LBP community. The mural features the ʔəmi ce:p kʷətxʷiləm message that translates to "you are welcomed" and complements the welcome pole at the entrance of the school. Traditionally, these welcome pole figures were placed on lands for visitors to see as they entered the territory of the local land-based nations in Coast Salish Territories.





The mural also shows the land behind the figure that represents the Kwikwetlem First Nation territory on which Lord Baden Powell School resides and honours the Kwikwetlem First Nation by adding small red fish in the river. The word Kwikwetlem means “small red salmon” and refers to the unique sockeye salmon that once ran in large numbers in the Coquitlam River and Coquitlam Lake.

Though the courtyard transformation project is far from finished, the PAC is excited to showcase the space and is looking forward to celebrating with the Coquitlam Legion, Lord Baden Powell Department Heads, artists, district officials, board trustees, PAC executive and media.

- Summer break inspired some of our SD43 teachers to produce new artwork in a variety of mediums and it's now on display at the Mezzanine Gallery of Place Des Arts. An opening reception was held on September 10th from 7 pm to 9 pm.

Support the following SD43 teachers by attending the in-person exhibition, “Creative Connections”, at the Place Des Art open this September until October 20th.

Learn more: <http://ow.ly/kUu750G6DE4>

- Judi Gardner, Port Moody Secondary School
- Maple Lee, Continuing Education
- AJ Vittie, Riverside Secondary School
- Soyun Yun, Lord-Baden Powell Elementary School
- Mary Otey, Minnekhada Middle School
- Geoffrey Kehrig, Miller Park Elementary
- Grace Kim, Summit Middle School
- Joanne Howey, Eagle Ridge Elementary School






6. SD43 students participated in the Fresh Roots Farms Sustainable Opportunities for Youth Leadership (SOYL) program, a 6-week summer leadership and empowerment summer program where high school students learned the importance of growing, selling and cooking food. Students also had the opportunity to practice their negotiation and speaking skills as they educated buyers on the process of harvesting and the importance of protecting the food system at the Fresh Roots pop-up market at Millside Centre on Thursdays.
7. Last school year, Eagle Mountain Middle School chose the novel, "Rick" by Alex Gino as its school-wide read. The book discusses a boy beginning middle school going through his struggles of friendship while discovering his identity and new connections as he attends an after-school club, called the Rainbow Spectrum Club.

Inspired by this story and theme of diversity, students participated in a "quilt project" where they each decorated a 3"x 3" square and wrote a brief description about themselves. These were then organized by SD43 teacher Simon Kwok into a rainbow "quilt", which is now displayed at the front entrance of the school as a way to welcome all students to the new school year and as a daily reminder that each student brings their own uniqueness to the school.



8. The École Moody Middle School of the Arts community is excited to share the news about their newly painted rainbow coloured crosswalk and to be the very first school in the district to boast one. Principal Mark Clay writes, "Our school-wide theme this year is around "identity and belonging" and I had been wanting them done for awhile now. Timing worked out and the idea fits in nicely with so many themes we are embracing at École Moody Middle School of the Arts".



Upcoming Events

September 15 – The Great Tour, an initiative by the Association Canadienne des Professionnels de l'immersion where staff travel across Canada to meet with French Immersion high school students to promote careers in immersion. The Great Tour will be visiting Riverside Secondary School from 8:30 am to 10:00 am and Dr. Charles Best Secondary School from 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

September 19 – Terry Fox Run

September 24 – SD43 Pro-D Day, no classes in session

September 30 – Truth and Reconciliation Day federal holiday, no classes in session