



1. On Pink Shirt Day, SD43's Board of Education and District Leadership Team wore pink to stand up against bullying!

Together, we are making a pledge to always be kind to those in our community. Let us continue to lift each other up and create a world where everyone is accepted and respected, no matter their differences!

Schools in the district also participated in various assemblies and encouraged kindness in many ways!

- Coast Salish Kindergarten and Grade 1 students performed a song called "Kindness" at their Pink Shirt Day Assembly
- Porter Street Elementary School held an assembly with the "Lean On Me band".
- Mundy Road Elementary School gathered to celebrate kindness!
- Teachers at Minnehada Middle School were learning more about how to incorporate 'circle practice' into their classrooms. Circle practice skills include demonstrating respect and self-regulation, along with sharing each other stories, and creating community.
- Westwood Elementary School staff standing proud in pink against bullying!
- SD43 Learning Services Coordinator Carol Todd visited Victoria and met with Premier David Eby, Minister Selina Robinson and Minister Jennifer Whiteside.



2. SD43 is proud of our Real Acts of Caring (RAC) students who celebrated RAC week, an annual initiative to encourage doing something kind for another, and not expecting anything in return. During RAC week, many SD43 schools, students and staff shared smiles, love, and kindness in the community.

- On February 13, RAC students went around Newport Village and handed out 300 carnations and reusable produce bags to community members, made Valentine's Day hearts and origami for residents at Belvedere Care Centre and gifted baked treats to the workers, and ended the day with a fun game of bowling.
- École Dr. Charles Best Secondary School RAC students Anisia & Jennifer hosted an Instagram Takeover on the district Instagram account sharing a 'day of caring' with other students.
- Two classes at Castle Park Elementary School watched for acts of caring happening in the school community. They handed out "tickets of kindness" throughout the week. The students posted the tickets on a bulletin board and watched it fill up.
- Terry Fox Secondary School students, Jenna and Eric, delivered flowers to seniors at Nicola Lodge.



# Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

## Regular Board Meeting of March 7, 2023

Learning for a Lifetime

Serving the communities of Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody

- Porter Street Elementary School students appreciated Education Learning Centre staff and shared produce bags and sweet treats at the office.
- On Professional Development Day, Terry Fox Secondary School teacher, Edward Csuka, was presented the CAP Award for Excellence in Teaching High School by the president of the Canadian Association of Physicists (CAP) British Columbia and Yukon chapter in recognition of his passion and teaching of physics, and dedication to his leadership in organizing the *Powers of Ideas Exhibit* and supporting a new STEAM program in the school including the Terry Fox Robotics Club.



SD43 staff were also excited to welcome Dr. Jody Carrington, a renowned psychologist, best-selling author, and keynote speaker, who shared her expertise, energy, and approach to helping people solve their human-centred challenges specifically through reconnecting and building healthy relationships with peers.

Congratulations and thank you to the Coquitlam Teacher's Association for organizing this successful event!

- On Monday, École Dr. Charles Best Secondary School students and staff presented to the City of Coquitlam Council members requesting that the city raise the pride flag outside city hall in June and organize an event in the summer.



Photo Credit: Tri-City News

During the delegation, the students handed out pride flags to each council member and raised points about the City's own priority for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) as stated in their Business Plan. The students also shared how some Tri-City organizations and leaders have already given them support with their requests.

The City of Coquitlam had a favourable response with each council member commending these students for their efforts in speaking up and making the city more inclusive. The City of Coquitlam's EDI Manager Manisha Dutta shared that the city will be launching *Celebrate Diversity Month* in April and will be adding pride decals to various entrances at civic facilities.

To mark Pride Month in June, the city will also be hanging pride street banners around Town Centre, at city hall and at other high-visibility locations.

On Tuesday, teacher Megan Leslie, who leads the school's Gay–Straight Alliance (GSA) was also interviewed on the *Drex on Jack Show* (96.9FM) to share her support for her students on the city's favourable response.

- SD43's annual budget process began with the Stakeholder Input Session on February 21, 7 p.m. at the Education Learning Centre. During the month of April, there will be multiple opportunities for public engagement. The public is welcome to attend the next budget meeting, for the Presentation of the 2023-24 Preliminary Budget on April 11. More information is available online at [www.sd43.bc.ca/budget](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/budget).

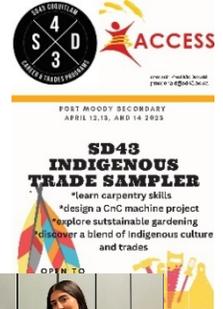
JOIN US AT THE EDUCATION LEARNING CENTRE

### 2023 - 2024 BUDGET MEETINGS

Public and Stakeholder Input Session	6:30 pm, Tuesday, February 21
Presentation of 2023 - 2024 Preliminary Budget	7:00 pm, Tuesday, April 11
Public Comment on Proposed Budget	6:30 pm, Tuesday, April 18
Final Budget Presentation and Board Approval	7:00 am, Tuesday, April 25

All meetings will be held in person at 1813 Winslow Ave. Coquitlam, BC V3J 8B6.  
Learn more: [sd43.bc.ca/budget](http://sd43.bc.ca/budget)

6. On February 15, SD43's Career and Trades Program hosted a successful Train in Trades and Work in Trades Virtual Info Session, where 115 participants learned about the various tuition-free trade programs SD43 offers.



The Trades Department will also be hosting the SD43 Indigenous Trades Sampler on April 12, 13, and 14 at Port Moody Secondary School, where grades 10 to 12 students who identify as having Indigenous ancestry will have the opportunity to learn carpentry skills, design a CNC machine project, explore sustainable gardening, and discover a blend of Indigenous culture and trades.



7. On February 14, SD43 students were spreading love and kindness for Valentine's Day. Here are a few highlights:

- Valentine's Themed Day of Red, White, and Pink led by Leadership Students and Ms. Cullum at Anmore Elementary School
- Gleneagle's Shelter Society Club Valentine's Day Rose-gram fundraiser was a hit! All proceeds from the sale will be donated to Covenant House, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing unconditional love and support to homeless youth.
- École Dr. Charles Best Secondary School students gave away flowers to spread love and kindness at the school Well done students!

8. Congratulations to grade 12 Heritage Woods Secondary School student, Tyson Venegas, who won the first platinum ticket in the 21<sup>st</sup> season premiere of American Idol! Read his news feature on City News [here](#).



9. On February 25, Gleneagle Secondary Music Department held its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Jazz Gala Dinner & Silent Auction celebrating a wonderful evening of jazz music featuring the Gleneagle Jazz Band and the Gleneagle Vocal Jazz Group. Well done students!
10. Gleneagle Secondary Con-X students will be hosting their tenth annual outdoor sleepover on March 30<sup>th</sup>. The students will be sleeping outside the school to raise awareness for homeless youth in the community and funds for Covenant House Vancouver. Every donation helps change the lives of youth. Learn more [here](#).
11. SD43's Facilities Department - Energy Management and Sustainability Department shares their latest edition of Energy Wire. Read more on our website [here](#).

12. SD43 is grateful to Coquitlam RCMP officers who have been visiting various elementary schools and connecting with our students, staff, and families over breakfast and through the *Reading with a Cop* program.



Photo Credit: Coquitlam RCMP

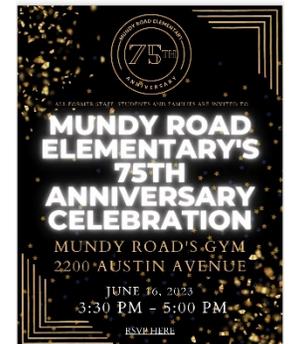
13. SD43 Sports News:

- Centennial Secondary School students Hannah Sherman won silver and Jony Gee won bronze competing during the BC Secondary Wrestling Championships 2023 held at Pacific Coliseum.
- Terry Fox Secondary School student Nolan Stewart won the Most Outstanding Male Wrestler for 2023 award.
- Terry Fox Secondary School Senior Boys AAA Basketball Team won the Fraser North Championships held at the Langley Events Centre.
- Congratulations to Terry Fox Secondary School basketball player Brendan Nightingale on being named the First All Star at the Fraser North Basketball Championships.
- Port Moody Secondary School student Ella Finding won first place during the BC Wrestling Provincials.



14. On February 25, SD43 administrators Todd Clerkson and Glen Conley joined the Rocky Point Park Polar Plunge in the Burrard Inlet to support Special Olympics BC athletes. Donations are still being accepted [here](#).

15. All former staff, students and families are invited to Mundy Road Elementary School as they will be celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on June 16, 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm at the school gym. RSVP to the event [here](#) or email [mundyroad@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:mundyroad@sd43.bc.ca) for more info.



### Upcoming Events

**March 8** – International Women's Day

**March 13 - 24** – Schools close for Spring Break

**March 21** – International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

**March 30** – Gleneagle Secondary School Sleepout