

Regular Board Meeting of October 8, 2019

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

1. Many School District 43 schools supported Orange Shirt Day on September 30<sup>th</sup>, a day to remember and honour residential school survivors.

#### Gleneagle Secondary

On September 30, 2019, a group of Con-X Leadership students from Gleneagle Secondary School organized an Orange Shirt Day event to raise awareness of residential schools and current issues that the Indigenous peoples in Canada still face.

Student Lucas Hung presents a summary of their committee accomplishments including recruiting 10 committee members, creating awareness posters and circulating this throughout the school, handing out orange wristbands and brochures.

Read Lucas' full story at the end of this report.



Presenters Liz and Wilfred shared their experiences with Leigh Elementary students during a school wide assembly.

#### **Hampton Elementary**







Heritage Woods Secondary



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- 2. School District 43 schools continue to support and raise funds for the Terry Fox Foundation.
- Hampton Elementary school raises over \$3000. Mr. Dramer offered to shave his beard if the donations reached \$1,500 and Mr. Parkins offered to shave his head if the donation reached \$3,000.
- Pleasantside Elementary, one of the smallest schools in the district, raised over \$7000 from their goal of \$3000 last year. To raise funds, Mr. Watkins offered to colour his hair if donations reached \$3000 and acted as a butler for the day to the top fundraising student.

The school will also be sending 15 Grade 5 students on the "Terry Fox Money Home" run on October 11<sup>th</sup> where other SD43 schools will all gather at Maple Creek to give our fundraised money.

- Walton Elementary continues sends 24 students and 4 staff to the 6 km run this year.
- 3. Over 200 School District 43 animation & film students produced and showcased their short films at the 10th year anniversary of the Reelstars Film Festival on September 26 at the Hollywood 3 Cinemas Pitt Meadows.

The District's Local Specialist Association has been organizing the Reelstars Film Festival. Its members are Mike Schoenhals, Jodey Udell, Martin Novotny, Cam Strudwick, David Gilbar, Brent Phillips-Watts, Phoebe Nezil, and Lisa Mulzet who have helped students by providing technical advice or appeared as actors throughout the years. However, all films produced are polished and have been created solely by students.





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- 4. Students Arun from Port Moody Secondary, Maya from Heritage Woods Secondary and Annika from Gleneagle Secondary represented SD43 at the Student Voice Conference organized by the British Columbia Principals' and Vice Principals' Association on October 4<sup>th</sup>, where students from multiple districts gathered to provide boards with their vision and views on specific topics such as student success, leadership and student empowerment.
- 5. The Terry Fox Theatre was alive with the sounds and sights of China as a Gongfu and Traditional Dance event was held on September 28, in celebration of the birthdate of Confucius.







 Superintendent Patricia Gartland, Director of Instruction Stephen Whiffin and Principal of Technology Implementation Dave Sands provided the keynote address at Micro:bit Live 2019 in Manchester England October 4-5<sup>th</sup>.

SD43 has long been an innovator and leader in providing opportunities for students to experience the latest technologies and this was an amazing forum to share our successes.





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7. Superintendent Patricia Gartland, Board Chair Barb Hobson and Trustees Lisa Park, Michael Thomas and Kerri Palmer-Isaac were invited to a reception in celebration of Korean National Day at the Consulate of the Republic of Korea on September 25<sup>th</sup>.





Read many more SD43 stories on our website at: <u>www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/news.aspx</u>

### Gleneagle Orange Shirt Day Recap

#### Lucas Hung

On September 30, 2019, a group of Con-X Leadership students from Gleneagle Secondary School organized an Orange Shirt Day event to raise awareness about residential schools and current issues that the Indigenous peoples in Canada still face.



This event was first brought to the attention of Con-X students by Ms. Carrie Clark, Gleneagle's Aboriginal Youth Worker, on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Grade 12 Con-X student Lucas Hung recruited a committee of 10 members to help plan an awareness campaign.

Five days before the event, posters were printed and placed around the schools.

Committee members went around to multiple classes to encourage students to wear orange, an Instagram account was made to advertise the event, and students also made morning announcements on the PA.

A short informational brochure was also created, intended to provide interested students with a background on residential schools and how the effects of generations of deliberate action against the Indigenous peoples of Canada can still be seen today.

Poster designed by Deon Feng, grade 12 student.

On the morning of Monday, September 30, committee members began handing out orange wristbands and brochures to students and staff and they entered the school.





Committee members handing out wristbands, including to Gleneagle principal Ken Cober (second image, far right).



### EVERY CHILD MATTERS.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY SEPT.30 From 1881 to 1996, the Government of Canada operated around 130 residential schools. More than 150,000 Indigenous children were taken from their communities and forced to assimilate to Euro-Canadian culture.

If you attended a residential school, you had a 1 in 25 chance of dying. If you were a Canadian serving in WWII, your odds of dying were 1 in 26. (Truth and Reconciliation Report)



Residential schools were just one part of a larger, systemic effort by generations of politicians to undermine and erase Indigenous culture. The effects are still felt.

#### Today,

- Indigenous suicide rates are 3 times higher than among non-Indigenous Canadians (Statistics Canada, 2011-2016)
- 56 Indigenous communities across Canada are still under boilwater advisories (Government of Canada, 2019)
- Indigenous youth make up 46 per cent of youth criminals, while accounting for just 8 per cent of the youth population (Statistics Canada, 2017)

Visit wherearethechildren.ca and orangeshirtday.net for more info.

WE ALL HAVE A PART TO PLAY.

Brochure designed by Deon Feng/Lucas Hung, grade 12 students.

Finally, on the morning announcements, this message was read out:

"Today is Orange Shirt Day - a day where we recognize a chapter of Canada's past that is too-often overlooked. The last residential school for Indigenous children closed just 23 years ago, and the effects of assimilation are still felt today. We thank everyone who took the effort to wear orange, and there will also be volunteers in the foyer at lunch handing out wristbands. Every child matters, and as Canadians, it is our responsibility to work towards a more inclusive nation for all. Thank you."

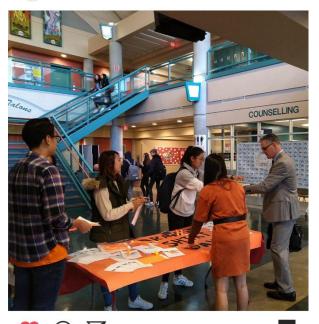
In all, roughly 50 students and staff wore orange to support the cause, but the overall outreach of the campaign was much higher – 468 students and staff received wristbands and brochures, and the event was highly publicized on the morning announcements, as well as Gleneagle's Instagram and Twitter pages. Thank you to all those who supported the event, and a big thank-you to Mr. Hayes, Ms. Clark, and the planning committee!











Liked by nathann.cushing and others gleneaglesecondaryschool Gleneagle Orange Shirt Day was today, where students wore orange s... more

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