



1. In the week leading to November 11<sup>th</sup>, SD43 students reflected on Remembrance Day with thoughtful art projects, meaningful discussions and themed lessons in class.

Students also watched an SD43 produced a video called "[SD43 Coquitlam Remembers](#)", a video to remind students of the importance of remembrance and to commemorate, as a district, all those who have given their lives for our peace and freedom today.

2. Congratulations to Castle Park Elementary School for raising a total of \$12,323 for the Terry Fox Foundation. We are extremely proud of all the efforts this community has undertaken to help support cancer research and even more proud that they have collected and submitted the largest donation from an elementary school in BC.

Thank you to students Rihana, Emily and Markus and to Principal Andrew Corbould for delivering this donation to Kirsten Fox at the Terry Fox Foundation Office in Burnaby.



3. The Board of Education would like to recognize and celebrate the long-serving employees of SD43. Though we have not been able to host an in-person event for a couple of years now, we would like to thank you for your dedication to the district and, more importantly, the students of SD43. You have helped so many children succeed by reaching their educational goals and we appreciate all that you do for the young people in our region.

Long-serving employees around the district are being presented commemorative pins for reaching 10, 15, 20 and 25-year milestones and it is a matter of pride that we have so many employees that choose to spend all or most of their career in SD43.



4. The SD43 Communications Department welcomes Adrienne, a Pinetree Secondary School student, as our first Work Experience Program intern.

The Work Experience Program (WEX) is an educational program where students are provided the opportunity to participate, observe, and learn about tasks and responsibilities related to an occupation or career they are interested in.

Through participating in the WEX program, students like Adrienne will become more prepared to decide on post-secondary training and how that may lead to potential careers. For now, Adrienne is interested in business, marketing and social media and is exploring her options.

Read more about Adrienne as she shares her perspective on SD43 student life and more on the SD43 Community News page [here](#).



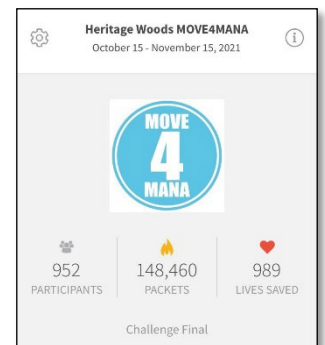
5. Congratulations to the Terry Fox Theatre for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place on the 2021 A List as voted by readers of the Tri-City News.



6. From October 15 to November 15, the Heritage Woods Secondary School community participated in *Move4Mana*, a student-led initiative that aims to save children from severe acute malnutrition in developing countries.

To encourage more participants to get active at school, which would translate to points and in turn help provide Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) packets to those in need, students held social media photo hunts, art challenges, a musical chairs contest, teacher versus student dodgeball competitions, treasure and scavenger hunts.

Thank you to the 952 participants for raising 148,460 packets of food and helped save 989 young lives in developing countries!



7. On November 4, Roy Stibbs Elementary School and Hillcrest Middle School celebrated Diwali, also known as the "Festival of lights", India's most important holiday celebrating the victory of light over darkness or good over evil.

Staff wore saris at school while students drew "rangolis", an artistic design of geometric patterns, flowers, animals, and mandalas. Typically, rangolis are 'drawn' with coloured powders, sand and other materials on the floor or the ground near the entrance of a house or building to welcome guests.







8. Eight SD43 secondary students are participating in the UBC Black Futures Program at the University of British Columbia. The program is designed to help support students who identify as black with their application process and post-secondary planning. The students have attended 2 zoom meetings so far and have started their campus experience days last week. The campus visits have been divided into 3 categories: U Belong Here (UBC campus experience), Your Mind Matters (mental health focus), Step Up (post-secondary planning), and a celebratory graduation luncheon. Each focus day allows students to explore their interests, meet with mentors, hear from Black leaders who work in diverse fields and backgrounds and connect with young Black youth from across the lower mainland.

9. Congratulations to Cassandra Curtis, a self-taught baker and Terry Fox Secondary School graduate for winning the top prize of \$10,000 at the Big Bake Competition of Food Network. Read more on the Tri-City News [here](#).



10. On November 4, Coquitlam Public Library visited Pinetree Secondary School to present a variety of digital resources, books, educational programs and lendable technology which are now available for student use.



11. Congratulations to SD43 teacher Sean Robinson, recipient of the "Best Use of Digital Learning in the Classroom" award at the annual Global Educational Supplies and Solutions (GESS) conference held in Dubai, UAE. Though Mr. Robinson was unable to attend the conference in-person, he expressed his gratitude to Superintendent Patricia Gartland and SD43 leadership for their continued support and his genuine pleasure in receiving recognition for his work in connections-based learning.



12. The Gleneagle Secondary Music Department Fall Concert was held virtually and premiered on October 27. You can watch the complete concert on [YouTube](#).

13. The Student Spaceflight Science Experiment Program finalists have been decided! Team proposals from grades 5-12 students attending more than 30 SD43 schools were initially reviewed. Proposals were shortlisted and further reviewed by a panel of experts with science, technology and proposal writing backgrounds from School District No. 43 (Coquitlam), Simon Fraser University, IBM Canada, and Microsoft Canada.

From there, several proposals were further shortlisted and discussed in depth by the panel to narrow it down to the final three which will be put forward to the Student Spaceflight Experiment Program (SSEP) and the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education (NCESS) in Washington, DC. From these three, the final proposal will be selected that will blast off on a rocket heading to the International Space Station where the experiment will be conducted by astronauts. The data outcomes will be returned to the students for analysis.

### Finalists:

#### **Marisa Bassetto and Selina Zhang (Gr 8, with teacher Patrick Ingelman at Hillcrest Middle).**

Marisa and Selina are proposing a test to see if *Bacillus subtilis* grows differently in microgravity than it does on earth. This bacterium is easy to grow but a study on growth rate and possible mutations is very interesting.



#### **J.E. Lee and Yong Lee (Gr 9, with teacher Marina Mehai at Port Moody Secondary)**

J.E. and Yong are interested in the microorganisms that reside in the human gut. Their experiment hopes to reveal more about how these microorganisms grow in the microgravity of space as it could have implications for the health of future astronauts.



#### **Jisong Han (Gr 10, with teacher Julia Hamilton at Dr Charles Best Secondary)**

In this experiment, buckwheat seeds will be sent up to space and water will initiate their germination process. Then, their germination process will be stopped with a fixative solution. After, the seeds will be compared to the control group that was raised on Earth.



Students across the district will now focus their attention on submitting mission patch designs. Once a final art design is selected, it will be made into an official mission patch and accompany the experiment into space and onto the International Space Station. This incredible opportunity is available to students across all grade levels and encourages creative thinking and practical application of design.

Read more about the [SSEP here](#).



14. Trees are being planted at 22 sites across the district in the coming weeks! The trees are all prepared and ready to be planted. Funded by municipal donations and a private donor, the tree planting project supported by SD43 district staff and teachers at each of the schools, and includes lesson plans and sometimes a little student elbow grease. So far R.C. MacDonald and Eagle Mountain have planted their trees with Hampton Park next up in the queue.

The tree planting and the lessons support our Directions 2025 cross cutting theme of Social Engagement relating to both Global Citizenship, Environmental Stewardship and Community Relations as the project involves community donations and volunteers in addition to student participation.



### Upcoming Events

- December 6 at 6:30 pm – Women in Trades Virtual Meet & Greet, hosted by SD43 in collaboration with the BC Centre for Women in Trades
- December 17 – last day in session before schools close for Winter Vacation
- January 4, 2022 – schools re-open after Winter Vacation