

1. On April 28, Gleneagle Secondary School celebrated its 25-year anniversary. The celebration welcomed current and former students and staff, and featured students modelling fashion trends throughout the years. Additionally, attendees anticipated the unboxing of a time capsule that had been sealed since the school's opening in September 1997.

The school's first principal, Bob Nicholas was also present during the event and other members of the first graduating class found their own handprints imprinted on a wall inside the school.

2. May is *Better Speech and Hearing Month*. In our district, over 1200 students with communication needs have been supported by Speech-Language Pathologists this school year. Read more tips on how to support students with their hearing and speech on our website [here](#).



3. On May 5th, Port Moody Secondary and Heritage Woods Secondary basketball teams finished as the top two teams during the Special Olympics British Columbia 3 on 3 Unified Basketball Provincials, held at Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School in Courtney, British Columbia.

The two Port Moody Teams travelled together, developing friendships and memories on what was a special day for our students!

Mr. Glen Conley, Port Moody Secondary School Principal, shares, "We left as two teams from Port Moody and came back as one Port Moody Team!"

Congratulations students!



4. Congratulations to Eva Huang, a grade six student in Ms. Ascoli's Art Explorations class at Summit Middle School, for winning the Grade 6 Infectious Disease & Climate Change poster contest with Canadian Public Health Association.

With her teacher's encouragement, Eva learned more about climate-sensitive infectious diseases like Lyme disease and West Nile virus and entered the national art contest.

Eva's poster described a very complex issue, the causes and prevention of the West Nile Virus, and was chosen as the winner out of over 900 entries throughout Canada!

Eva will take home the top prize of a Chromebook, as well as a \$300 Chapters gift card.





5. On May 1st, the Coquitlam Music Teacher's Association successfully hosted the SD43 Music Festival in the Park at Town Centre Park in Coquitlam. The festival featured more than 1,500 talented performers from SD43 Elementary, Middle, and Secondary Schools. Attendees were treated to a wide range of musical genres, creating a vibrant and harmonious atmosphere.

The special occasion coincided with the nationwide celebration of Music Monday, an event that highlights the significance of music education and its positive impact on children and youth across Canada.

6. On May 5th, SD43 students commemorated Red Dress Day, a National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit People.



Along Como Lake Avenue, red dresses were hung by École Dr. Charles Best Secondary School students to honour those who are lost and to bring awareness to those who have experienced disproportionate violence. In front of the school's office, students also shared more stories and awareness of those that have been affected. The entrance to Riverside Secondary also featured red dresses.

7. On April 27, Assistant Director of Communications and Community Relations, Ken Hoff together with Associate Director of Communications of Surrey School District Ritinder Matthew, presented invaluable insights on digital engagement, media relations, and issues management for school district trustees during the British Columbia School Trustee Association Conference (BCSTA) and Annual General Meeting held at the Westin Bayshore. SD43 Trustees gathered with other trustees from across the province to share insights and knowledge.



8. On April 12th to 14th, thirteen Indigenous SD43 students learned construction and carpentry skills while also gaining knowledge from our Indigenous Education Department staff about traditional uses of cedar and their connection to the land. Students created cedar garden boxes that will be used for Riverview Park Elementary School's sustainable gardening program.

The *SD43 Indigenous Sampler* was organized by the SD43 Career & Trades Programs. Thank you to the Aboriginal Community Career Employment Services Society for funding this successful event and well-done students!



9. On May 11th, 60 STEAM student ambassadors from grades 4 to 12 accompanied by 13 educators showcased their outstanding inquiry based Geoheritage projects at Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Burnaby. The students shared their observations and findings about their connection to the land with staff and students on campus.

Students first identified specific areas on their school grounds, reflected on the natural processes that formed and changed their land, and generated their unique perspectives and conclusions about their inquiry.

Thank you to Superintendent of Schools Patricia Gartland, Board Chair Michael Thomas, Trustee Carol Cahoon, Director of Instruction Stephen Whiffin and District Principal of Technology Implementation Dave Sands for their support and to Simon Fraser University Faculty of Earth Sciences Teaching Professor Eileen van der Flier-Keller for collaborating with SD43 on this successful event.

Congratulations to all our STEAM student ambassadors and thank you for your commitment to this Geoheritage initiative in partnership with SFU Earth Sciences!



10. On May 4th, Ranch Park Elementary School welcomed almost 240 current and former staff, students, and parents to celebrate the school's 60th year anniversary. Ranch Park welcomed its first Grade 1 class in 1962 and eight former students from that class came to join the Anniversary Celebration 60 years later. Their former teacher, Miss Bandringa (now Mrs. Postman) sent her best wishes to that class and to those who came. The school also welcomed Casey Jones, the first winner of the Ranch Park Elementary Trevor Wazney Award, given to a graduating student who best exemplifies the spirit of Ranch Park.

The school also made t-shirts for the event, designed by a current Grade 5 student. Photo albums and framed student and staff photos were also displayed in the library, where guests enjoyed reflecting on their personal history together with old friends. Photo slideshows of all the class photos were displayed in the library and in the gym. Principal Rob Killawee also shared some welcoming remarks and reflected on the history of Ranch Park.

11. On April 24th, SD43 and New Taipei Public Schools signed a memorandum of understanding at the Education Learning Centre. Ten Coquitlam schools (Elementary, Middle & Secondary) were matched with 10 schools in New Taipei City.



During the group visit, SD43 staff shared a variety of topics on BC's education system, STEAM education, digital education, IB programs, and bilingual programs in Mandarin and English.

12. Congratulations to students Matthew J. from École Montgomery Middle School and Santiago T. from École Pitt River Middle School, who won silver and bronze awards representing SD43 at the 2023 Concours d'art oratoire.

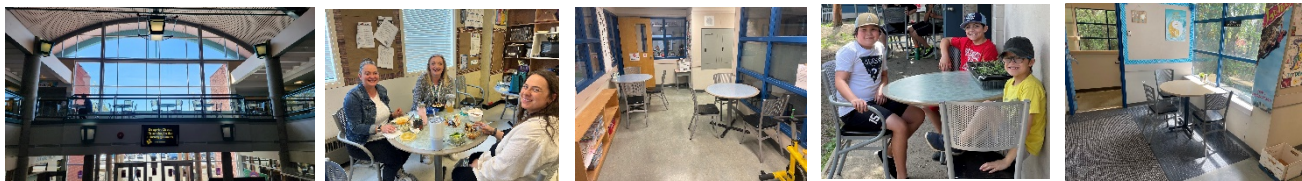
The French public speaking contest was held on May 7th at Simon Fraser University's Surrey campus and organized by the Canadian Parents for French BC and Yukon (CPF).



Over 85,000 students participate annually in this public speaking contest, showcasing their language skills in a 4-minute speech for grade 6 and 5-minute speech for grades 7-12.

13. On May 10th, SD43 hosted a *Parent Education Learning Series* featuring Andrew Baxter from the Mental Health Literacy Organization. Mr. Baxter shared tips on how to support a child's mental health and address a child's needs better. The event was well received and was attended by 92 community members.

14. Congratulations to Port Moody Secondary School's Blue Thunder Drumline for placing third at the Canadian Drumline Association's British Columbia Provincial Championships held on May 5th. This is the first year as a drumline they have participated in this contest. Watch their performance on the Port Moody Secondary School's Instagram account [here](#).



15. Thank you to Morguard Investments, operators of Coquitlam Centre, for their generous donation of tables and chairs, which are now being used as eating and gathering spaces at several schools in our district!

It's a win-win – the district was able to utilize the seating and together we're preventing items from ending up in the landfill!

Some quotes from SD43 principals include:

The donated tables and chairs from Coquitlam Centre are being used for student small group collaborative inquiry work as well as for quick one-on-one support directly outside classroom with teachers and support staff. Tables and chairs are creating a warm and welcoming environment for this kind of work in the hallways.



Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of May 23, 2023

Learning for a Lifetime

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

We are excited to announce the opening of the Crest Café in our Courtyard. Thanks to Coquitlam Centre for their generous donations of tables and chairs. Students are excited to enjoy an opportunity to eat outside in comfort.



16. Congratulations to all student recipients of the Ministry of Education's Youth Work in Trades Awards! The students were awarded a \$1000 cheque each towards their education.

17. Congratulations to the Centennial Hockey team for winning the B.C. High School Hockey Provincial Championships!



18. In the recent Coquitlam Teachers' Association election, Ken Christensen was re-elected as president, Diether Malakoff was elected as first vice president, and Meggan Crawford as second vice president.

In the recent CUPE Local 561 election, Randy Kootte was elected as the new president, Lisa Gregory was elected as vice president, Darin Nielsen as Treasurer, Jill Allen as recording secretary, and Mike Myers as Senior Shop Steward.

19. On April 21st, Centennial Secondary School hosted the 2023 Centaur Breakfast to help fundraise for the school's football program. The event was held in the school's foyer and featured former BC Lion Casey Chin as their guest speaker. Thank you to all our community members who have supported this great cause!

20. Two Riverside graduates, all alumni of the PoCo Minor Lacrosse Saints, recently won the Pacific North College Lacrosse League Championship with their teammates from Simon Fraser University. Congratulations to Cam Way and Alan Gane on their victory!

21.

Upcoming Events

May 24th to May 30th – Coquitlam Mall District Art Exhibition

May 25 – Substance Use Community Panel Discussion

May – 24, 25, 26, 31 & June 1 and 2nd – Port Moody Secondary School Theatre students present Legally Blonde The Musical

There are only 100 tickets per performance and tickets are \$10 each. Buy your tickets via school cash online or via this link: Theatre - Port Moody Secondary School

June 2 – Centennial Show & Shine Show

June 7 – SD43 Trades Hiring Fair with SD43Trades and Career Program

June 7 – SD43 in partnership with SHARE's Youth Substance Use Services team invites parents and caregivers to their virtual "How to Talk to Your Youth About Substance Use" from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm