

1. **SD43** held its first-ever [Middle School Sphero Challenge Day](#) on May 25. Over 100 **students and teachers representing all 14 middle schools in the district** took part in a fun-filled day that featured a series of challenges that allowed students to demonstrate their critical thinking, coding ability and showmanship. Visit SD43's YouTube page to see a [video of the event](#).
2. **Blakeburn Elementary** was honoured with a [Welcome to Kindergarten Award for Partnership Excellence](#) from The Learning Partnership.
3. **SD43** was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Tri-Cities Healthy Living Group for its support of the **Tri-Cities Live 5-2-1-0 Play Box Program**.
4. **SD43 Superintendent Patricia Gartland** was named to the Canadians for 21st Century Learning & Innovation CEO Academy Board.
5. **Twenty-five SD43 schools** participated in the Salmonid Enhancement Program this year releasing over 1,300 fry from four different hatcheries.
6. **Gleneagle Secondary's Me to We Club** organized a hair drive benefitting Wigs for Kids in May with students and staff donating their locks for the cause.
7. **Terry Fox Secondary's** production of *Bittergirl* won the Outstanding Ensemble award at the [Sears British Columbia Drama Festival](#).
8. **Students at Suwa'lkh Secondary** enjoyed a 7-day excursion where they [explored the Broken Group Islands](#) by canoeing over 60 kilometres as part of the outdoor adventure program.
9. **Citadel Middle** [hosted the annual MACC Writers Conference of Interest](#) on May 17. Organized by teacher **Cheryl Angst**, the event provided gifted middle school students across SD43 an opportunity to gain insight into writing, learn techniques about starting a novel, and learn about making comic books and writing graphic novels.
10. **Scott Creek Middle** held a car wash in support of Cops for Cancer BC on May 25.
11. **Five SD43 students** won awards at the [Concours d'art oratoire provincial competition](#) – a pan-Canadian French public speaking competition – held on May 6. Congratulations to **Maria Galdian (Banting Middle)**, **Lisa Ungureanu (Banting Middle)**, **Fanny Barakaeva (Pitt River Middle)**, **Claire Song (Dr. Charles Best Secondary)** and **Cassie Truss (Dr. Charles Best Secondary)** who each finished in the top-three in their respective categories.
12. **SD43 middle and secondary school concert bands and string orchestras** enchanted visitors at Town Centre Park on May 27 at the Music Festival in the Park event.
13. **SD43 secondary school student artwork** was [prominently displayed at Coquitlam Centre](#) from May 24 to May 29.
14. **The Coquitlam Teachers' Association** honoured six SD43 teachers with a [2017 CTA Multicultural and Anti-Racism Committee award](#). Congratulations to **Trina Munday (École Maillard Middle)**, **Lucy Sousa (Centennial Secondary)**, **Ryan Cho (Terry Fox Secondary)**, **Evan Cupit (École Kwayhquitlum Middle)**, **Kate Jones (École Kwayhquitlum Middle)** and **Linda Weslowski (Blakeburn Elementary)**.
15. **Tazeen Bharucha**, a **StrongStart facilitator for SD43**, was named the [individual champion at the 8th annual Tri-Cities' Champions of Young Children Awards of Excellence](#) held on May 11.
16. **Inquiry Hub student Andrew Teel** was the recipient of a Yes I Can! Award from the BC Council for Exceptional Children in recognition of his work [fundraising for Covenant House](#) back in December.



17. **Eagle Mountain Middle student Ethan Hite** joined his parents on a humanitarian mission to Haiti during spring break and, thanks to support from his teammates with the U-14 Port Moody Tigers, [brought 100 pounds of soccer equipment to be donated to the kids at the School of Saut D'Eau.](#)
18. **Hillcrest Middle student Sam Doucet**, a minor hockey goalie and lacrosse player who was diagnosed with Crohn's, has [raised more than \\$7,000 to help improve the lives of those affected by Crohn's Disease and colitis.](#)
19. Plenty of SD43 success stories from the courts and the turf including:
 - **Centennial Secondary's senior girls soccer team** [advanced to the provincial Final 4 for the first time since 2006](#) and earned a [bronze medal.](#)
 - **Heritage Woods Secondary's senior tennis team** captured the Fraser Valley championships and the AAA provincial championship.
 - **Riverside Secondary's senior boys rugby team** [captured the Fraser Valley championship](#), while **Riverside Secondary's junior girls soccer team** also won at the Fraser Valley championship.
 - **Hillcrest Middle** was dominant on the rugby scene capturing the district championships in the girls category (alongside **Banting Middle**), Grade 6/7 boys category, and Grade 7/8 boys category.
 - **Terry Fox Secondary** captured the B.C. Secondary School Rugby Union AAA [Tier 2 championship.](#)
 - **Pinetree Secondary's senior badminton team** won the bronze medal at the provincial championship.
 - **SD43 students** shone at the 2017 BC High School Track & Field Championships combining to earn four gold medals, three silver medals and four bronze medals. For full results from SD43 students, [visit our website.](#)
 - **Heritage Woods Secondary student Thomas Venos**, a wheelchair tennis player, has been [accepted into the tennis program at the University of Alabama](#) and hopes to compete at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.
 - **CABE Secondary student Charly Dawson** [won the B.C. lightweight junior boxing title](#) in the 135-lbs. category.
20. **Three SD43 graduates** and current SFU students – **Kimberley Venn (Gleneagle Secondary)**, **Alec Yu (Pinetree Secondary)**, and **Iman Baharmand (Riverside University)** – [recently won the Global Challenge, an international competition at the University of Oxford](#) where students explore and present ideas around social and environmental change.
21. **Gleneagle Secondary graduate Lia Fallah**, who was crowned Miss Vancouver World 2017 in March, will [compete for the Miss World Canada title](#) this summer in Toronto.
22. **Port Moody Secondary graduate Joel McCarthy** won a [Leo Award](#) for Best Direction in a Short Drama for *I Love You So Much It's Killing Them.*



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