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](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/news.aspx).
   - **Heritage Woods Secondary student Thomas Venos**, a wheelchair tennis player, has been [accepted into the tennis program at the University of Alabama](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/news.aspx) 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 (Gleneagles 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](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/news.aspx) 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](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Pages/news.aspx)*