

# Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of September 20, 2022

Learning for a Lifetime

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



1. On August 30<sup>th</sup>, students, families, and the Burke Mountain community were excited to hear the provincial announcement of \$135 million in funding for building a new, 1,000 seat middle/secondary school on Burke Mountain in Coquitlam. SD43 will also be contributing an additional \$25 million to support future students from grades 6 to 12.

The newly rebuilt Irvine Elementary School welcomed students this September. The new school includes a new Neighbourhood Learning Centre for 60 new preschool, and 30-months-to-school-age childcare spaces.

Board Chair Michael Thomas participated in the Burke Mountain announcement and emphasized the Board's commitment to providing sustainable learning spaces for children.

Read more here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2022ECC0055-001301>



2. Learning Without Boundaries meetings held August 24 & 25.

The two-day event for district administrators was highlighted by meaningful discussions with keynote speaker Patrice Key-Rhone, Global Director of IBM's Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative Program, who emphasized the importance of prioritizing STEAM education. On day 2, keynote speaker Dr. Cynthia Nichol, outlined connections between STEAM education and the environment, and initiated hands-on experiments for the administrators to experience

In addition to these outstanding keynote speakers, the district leadership team shared new teaching and learning initiatives, Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirements, Classroom Assessment, Reporting, and more information for the new school year.

Thank you to all district administrators for their hard work in preparing for a successful start up of the school year.

3. On August 30th, invited guests, SD43 trustees, district leadership, and ELC staff witnessed the awakening of the welcoming poles in the front reception area of the new Education Learning Centre (ELC). Indigenous artist and carver Brandon Gabriel of the Kwantlen First Nation created the poles and led the ceremony.

The matching set of two poles follow Coast Salish traditional design elements. The human figures at the top are holding their hands up, giving a sign of thanks and welcome. They are also ready to teach, hear, and learn while the mighty thunderbird at the bottom clears the pathways and removes any barriers that block us from achieving our goals.

Both posts are also painted with colours from the Progress Pride Flag and stand together in the reception area as the "ultimate spiritual protectors for the space."

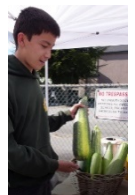
Read more on our website: <http://ow.ly/GkHf50KynEB>



4. On June 27th and 28th, Superintendent of Schools Patricia Gartland chaired the Mexico & Canada forum at the British Columbia International Education Week 2022 conference at the Fairmont Chateau Whistler. Ministers of Education from Jalisco and Guanajuato discussed current state goals and initiatives for public education at all levels and opportunities for new partnerships with Canadian institutions.

The signing of the first two K-12 education memoranda of understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training, the Ministry of Education and Child Care, and Jalisco and Guanajuato state governments provides more students with new life experiences and develops intercultural skills through their studies in a different country.

5. SD43 students participated in the Fresh Roots Farms Sustainable Opportunities for Youth Leadership (SOYL) program, a 6-week summer leadership and empowerment summer program where high school students learned the importance of growing, selling, and cooking food. Students also had the opportunity to practice their negotiation and speaking skills as they educated buyers on the process of harvesting and the importance of protecting the food system at the Fresh Roots pop-up market at Millside Centre on Thursdays.



6. On June 12 & 13, Liam Gorton, École Dr. Charles Best Secondary School student, won two gold medals in both the freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling in Calgary 52 kg U15 Canadian National Wrestling Champion. Congratulations Liam!







7. On the first day of school, Coast Salish Elementary School students were welcomed by Principal Frank Pearse and provided bus service from their school site and to their temporary space at new École Irvine Elementary School. Frank Pearse worked with Dennis Shannon, principal of École Irvine Elementary School, to plan for a smooth start up of the school year. Families that registered with the YMCA onsite daycare were also provided a space at Irvine and will move to their new space at Coast Salish site later in the year.
8. Heritage Mountain Elementary School teacher Darryl Colvin was excited to win \$500 from JACK 96.9 FM through their Project Pencil Case Contest, a radio contest designed to honour the best teachers across the Lower Mainland by nominations from listeners.

Darryl has been a teacher at the school for over 20 years and is teaching a Grade 2/3 class this year. Congratulations Darryl!



"So excited to win \$500 from JACK 96.9 FM through their Project Pencil Case contest. My amazing husband nominated me as he knows how much teachers spend each year on their classroom to make it a wonderful place for students to be each day. Cannot wait to spend the money and get new items for the classroom."

– Darryl Colvin, Heritage Mountain Elementary School teacher

9. Keith Watkins has stepped down from his role as school district trustee after a commitment to the students and staff of School District 43 that spans 30 years. Trustee Watkins made the announcement during the regular public board meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2022, citing health reasons.

The long-serving trustee was a champion for education in the Tri-City region and was devoted to the community and its students. Mr. Watkins has always had deep connections to Port Moody and began his service to the school district in 1988. Since that time his experience and knowledge have been appreciated and invaluable to each board of education on which he has served.

SD43 Board Chair Michael Thomas would like to thank Mr. Watkins for his service and added, "we will greatly miss Keith, his insights, and the historical perspective he brought to so many public discussions and debates. His sage advice and quick wit have been greatly valued. We wish him all the best."

As municipal elections will be held October 15, 2022 it is not necessary to hold a by-election to fill the now-vacant seat on the board.

10. Congratulations to Yeji Kwon, Gleneagle Secondary School student who won the first Canadian Junior Girls' Championships in Ontario on July 29, 2022.

Yeji is a member of Team Canada's national junior squad and has won multiple awards including the 2021 World Junior Golf Stars, San Diego Junior Amateur championships and 2020 Alberta Women's Amateur Championship.

With her recent win, including a \$1,200 cash prize, she has also be invited to compete at the 2023 U.S Junior Girls Championship.

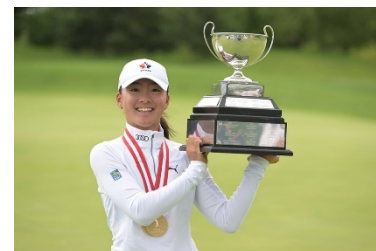


Photo Credit: Tricity News

11. District Leadership Team Member and Executive Director of Facilities and Planning Services, Ivano Cecchini, is named one of the finalists under the district leader category for 2022 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education.

The Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education recognizes the enormous contributions of B.C.'s exceptional teachers, administrators and support staff that are vital to the cultural, economic and social well-being of the province. The Premier's Awards provide students, parents, teachers and other members of the community with an opportunity to celebrate those who make a real difference in B.C. schools.



Award winners will be announced at a ceremony at Government House in Victoria on October 14, 2022.

Each winner will receive a \$3,000 personal bursary for professional learning, a \$2,000 contribution to their school for professional learning, and a commemorative trophy. Runners-up will each receive a \$1,000 personal bursary for professional learning and a \$1,000 contribution to their school for professional learning.

1. Thirty-four SD43 students made the rosters of Team BC Minor Box Lacrosse teams that represented the province at either the Lacrosse Canada 2022 National Minor Box Lacrosse Championships or the 2022 Canada Summer Games. The 12U male, 14U male, and 14U female teams played in Langley at the National Championships August 15-20 and all three won silver medals. The 17U male and 17U female teams competed at the Summer Games in Ontario's Niagara region August 6-21. The 17U males won gold, while the 17U females won silver. Selection camps were held around the province, culminating in the final provincial camp and final roster selection. Congratulations to the following SD43 students on being selected to 2022 Team BC Minor Box Lacrosse rosters!



12U Male Box	14U Male Box	14U Female Box	17U Male Box	17U Female Box
Peter Gombar - Port Coquitlam Conner Hoff - Port Coquitlam Jacob Oosterhof - Port Coquitlam Kale McMurray - Port Moody Marcus Phillips - Coquitlam	Luke Banks - Coquitlam Kyan Berar - Port Coquitlam Matty Dane - Coquitlam Parker Doyle - Port Moody Xander Freeman - Coquitlam Malcolm Richardson - Coquitlam Charlie Robinson - Coquitlam	Jane Beaton - Port Coquitlam Rhys Bowden - Coquitlam Saia Hansra - Coquitlam Madison Miletich - Port Coquitlam Taryn Peresin - Port Coquitlam Mattea Schenato - Coquitlam	Nathan Chalmers - Coquitlam Cole Kennet - Coquitlam Kalen Murray - Coquitlam Jordan Reed - Coquitlam Nolan Ross - Port Coquitlam Alex Tan - Coquitlam	Alyssa Clark - Port Coquitlam Gillian Lapierre - Port Coquitlam Michela Paterson - Coquitlam Kiera Scott - Coquitlam Maria Whitfield - Port Coquitlam Rhyan Holmes - Coquitlam Jade McKinnon - Coquitlam Sienna Prestia - Coquitlam



# Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of September 20, 2022

Learning for a Lifetime

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



2. On June 26th, the Vanier Garden Habitat Club, which includes SD43 students from the APEX and Encompass Programs, received the City of Coquitlam Environmental Achievement Award for their Conservation and Habitat Project that involved creating a pollinating meadow, mason bee houses, a flicker nest box, and building composters.

The City's Environmental Achievement Awards recognize individuals, organizations, and educators who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to promoting, conserving, and enhancing Coquitlam's natural environment.

The group would like to thank the following institutions for their ongoing support:

- TD Bank Friends of the Environment for funding the tools and building supplies.
- Rotary Club of Coquitlam for funding materials and helping
- Urban Roots for donating flats of starter plants
- Burke Mountain Naturalists for your ongoing support
- Plan Bee Native Nursery for providing the local native plant species for the pollinating meadow

The Vanier Community Garden and Habitat Club, which started in 2021, is a group of garden and habitat enthusiasts empowering students to cultivate a sense of belongingness and volunteerism through the planting and growing of fruits, vegetables, plants, and enhancing habitat spaces for animals.

The club has applied to be certified as a Wildlife Friendly Habitat Space with Canadian Wildlife Federation and is hoping to inspire more students to become stewards of the land.



# Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of September 20, 2022

Learning for a Lifetime

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

3. The Learning Services Literacy Team led by Jody Moss, Marna MacMillan, Jen Whiffin, Deb Vanderwood, Rosalita Faccone, Erin Reid, Alexa Charles, Lynda Lewis, Jeanette Murphy and Zone Coordinators hosted the *Shining a Light* Phonological Awareness Professional Development Session for all SD43 Kindergarten Teachers.



The Literacy Team is working alongside Lilah Martin, an early literacy expert, to support Kindergarten teachers in understanding the importance of using evidence-based teaching strategies and on how to model these into their classrooms.

The development sessions also provided teachers an overview of the essential structures to support inclusion and equity. Additional topics and resources include developing a Learner Profile, Classroom Based Assessments, Class Reviews, School Based Team as well as a Record of Intervention.

The team hosted its first sessions during the first week of September but will be organizing multiple sessions throughout the year to support teachers all year long.

4. There are plenty of SD43 success stories from the courts and the turf!
  - Congratulations Russell-Ron Arinaza of Terry Fox Secondary School for winning a silver medal and representing Team BC at the 2022 U16 Western Canada Challenge Football.
  - Congratulations to Claire Hill of Terry Fox Secondary School for winning a silver medal at the BC Summer Games in softball with the Fraser River zone.
  - Congratulations to Terry Fox Secondary Alumni Kali McCreedy for winning several medals during the BC Swimming Summer Association Provincial Championships in Kamloops. Kali won gold in the 200m medley relay, 100 m freestyle, 100 m butterfly and freestyle relay, silver in the 50 m butterfly, and bronze in the 50m freestyle competitions.

## Upcoming Events

**September 21** – Ecole Irvine Elementary School Opening

**September 22** – Education Learning Centre Grand Opening

**September 23** – SD43 Pro-D Day and Focus Day, no classes in session

**September 29** – Bramblewood Elementary School's 25th Anniversary Open House 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

**September 30** – Truth and Reconciliation Day, federal holiday, no classes in session

**November 9** – Inaugural Board Meeting