1. On October 17, British Columbia’s Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth visited Irvine Elementary School and joined students in a “Drop, Cover and Hold On” drill during the 2019 Great BC ShakeOut, an annual event reminding students and BC residents about the importance of safety and preparedness in the event of an earthquake.

2. On October 16, World Hunger Day, Riverside’s “Move 4 Mana” Team hosted an assembly to launch a one-month challenge to encourage students and the community to get active and help save the lives of children who are suffering from severe malnutrition.
   - Riverside Secondary students learned about ready-to-use therapeutic food and how partner groups, Food for Famine Society, World Vision Canada and MANA Nutrition, deliver these food packets to developing countries. Heritage Woods Secondary student Tyson Venegas also surprised guests with a musical performance.
   - Heritage Woods Secondary’s Move 4 Mana Team also held a day of assemblies to celebrate its 2nd anniversary of participation and to encourage students to get active during this one-month campaign. Heritage Woods Secondary student Gaby Lester performed a daring straight jacket escape while suspended from the theatre ceiling.

3. SD43 educators attended a variety of conferences and events for the Provincial Professional Development Day on October 25, 2019.
4. Central Elementary and the Port Coquitlam Fire Department served over 400 pancakes to students and guests during the “Community Celebration”, a day of community and raising awareness for the school’s growing Breakfast Program. The Port Coquitlam Firefighters Charity and CIMs LTD also donated $3500 to support the school’s Breakfast Program.

5. On October 14th – 18th, more than 1.1 million elementary and secondary school students participated in Student Vote Canada 2019, including many students from School District 43. Students learned about the electoral process, acted as Elections Canada officials, served as poll clerks, researched the parties and their platforms and, finally, cast their ballots.

6. Susan Henderson, from Riverside Secondary, received the Teacher-Librarian of the Year Award and Leslie Ikeda, former teacher-librarian at Pinetree Secondary School, received the Lifetime Achievement Award during the British Columbia Teacher-Librarians Association (BCTLA) conference on October 25, 2019. Congratulations!

7. Seaview Elementary held their 16th annual “We Are A Community” Thanksgiving Celebration lunch on October 9th. Families shared their favorite traditional dishes potluck-style. Trustees Carol Cahoon and Jennifer Blatherwick were in attendance.
8. On October 11, Heritage Woods Secondary School’s Kodiaks With a Purpose (KWAP) club participated in an outreach trip to Oppenheimer Park. Five staff and 42 students served lunch, handed out food, toiletries, beverages, and clothing to the Downtown Eastside Community.

9. In recognition of Disability Awareness Month, School District 43 Learning Services held their Inclusive Employer Celebration event on October 17, to recognize and thank over 50 local businesses that have provided work experience placements for youth with diverse abilities. The event also showcased student successes, the achievements of the Work Experience Program and, finally, the employers’ contributions in creating a diverse workplace environment.

10. Walton celebrates its 30th anniversary on October 18, 2019. Teachers shared their experiences about working at Walton Elementary and how the school has always been one big family.

Upcoming Events:
- November 14 – Long Service Recognition Reception – SD43 recognizes those with 25 years of service in the district.
- November 28 – SD43 Career Fair.
- Roy Stibbs Elementary School celebrates its 50th anniversary.