

1. May 5 is recognized as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two-Spirit People. The day is meant to honour and bring awareness to the thousands of Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit people who have been subjected to disproportionate violence in Canada. Métis artist Jaime Black started the REDress Project and each year some SD43 secondary schools participate by hanging red dresses on campus and organizing displays to educate others.



At Pinetree, learning activities were planned during lunch on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, ending with a drumming processional. The Red Dress committee hung red dresses around the school and nearby Lafarge Lake, according to Pinetree VP Marina Mehai. SWIS Immigrant Youth Worker James Conedar and Vice Principal Mehai shared some photos, including displays at Pinetree.

Riverside and Best secondary schools also hung red dresses in front of their schools creating a very eye-catching display that demands attention when driving by. SD43 students have recognized Red Dress Day in honour of MMIWG2S people for many years now and their efforts have educated many in our communities.

2. The Terry Fox Foundation has expressed their gratitude to Superintendent Patricia Gartland for another successful year of fundraising in SD43 and the superintendent wishes to relay that message to all the students, staff, and families for their outstanding efforts in 2023! The School District 43 community has raised \$140,815.81 in support of cancer research while participating in Terry Fox School runs and other activities. Students, staff, and families should be proud of the tremendous work they have done in honour of former SD43 student and national hero Terry Fox.

- May is Better Speech & Hearing Month and the SD43 Speech Pathologist Team is sharing resources and highlighting the important work they do in supporting students. In our district over 1200 students with communication needs are being supported by Speech-Language Pathologists this year. Late speech development is one of the most common symptoms of developmental delay in children and occurs in 5-10% of all children. More information and supports may be found on the district website under the Speech and Hearing Month banner on the landing page.



- Monday, May 6 was the annual SD43 Music Festival in the Park held at the Lafarge Lake bandstand. With cooperative weather and such talented musicians, the event was a great success! Large numbers of spectators were treated to elementary choirs from across the district, as well as ukulele and recorder ensembles. Also, middle and secondary school concert and jazz bands, and string orchestras performed to an appreciative audience. With the lake providing a beautiful backdrop and the availability of park concession ice cream, the musical performances were enjoyed by all.



- Each year, the BC Liquor Distribution Branch (BCLDB) holds its Dry Grad Campaign and for 2024, SD43 schools will share in a total of \$15,594.92. These funds will be distributed to schools based on the number of graduates this year and be used to fund Dry Grad celebration events that are alcohol free. SD43 was second only to Surrey out of participating districts with the Westwood Centre location in Port Coquitlam raising the most in SD43 with \$8,088.
- On April 26<sup>th</sup>, the CBC visited École Moody Middle School of the Arts to film a segment regarding the Children of the Street workshop being hosted there. The identities of students were protected aside from some volunteers who had provided previous permissions to appear in interviews. The CBC presented the program as part of a segment on The National about educating kids on the risk of online sexual exploitation. The segment may be viewed [here](#).



Photo: TriCity News

Heritage Woods is taking trash off the roadside and putting it on the runway! On Saturday, May 11 students in the philanthropy and leadership classes will host a Garbage Fashion Show that featured handmade outfits made from recycled materials. The group raised money for the Child and Youth Therapeutics program at BC Children's Hospital. Group organizer and Heritage grade 11 student Morgan Da Silva-Rolph underwent a spinal fusion surgery last year and suggested the group support this charity. Show coordinators also included Parsa Najafi, Olivia-Hyewon Huang, Saumya Hua, and Kusha Najafi. Pinetree and Gleneagle students also participated in the show with their creations. Students will present their fashionable creations and talk about the creative process. There was also a fundraising raffle, concession, and choir performances at the event.

- It's Bike to School Week June 3-June 7 and HUB Cycling is hoping many students will participate this year in riding, walking or wheeling to school. It's free to participate and there are prizes to be won. More information may be found on the brochure linked [here](#) or on their website at [www.bikehub.ca/btsw](http://www.bikehub.ca/btsw)



**BIKE to school WEEK**  
JUNE 3 • JUNE 7

JOIN TO WIN PRIZES

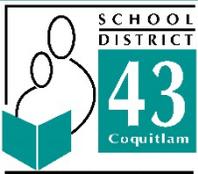
Ride your bike, walk, or wheel to school!

A FREE EVENT TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO BIKE, ROLL, OR WALK TO SCHOOL!

**Why Participate?**

- Win prizes from Science World, grubbees, Active for Life, and more!
- Create healthy habits and arrive at school energised and ready to learn!
- Compete with other schools for online shout-outs and certificates!
- Promote sustainable transportation and reduce congestion around school streets.

Learn more at [bikehub.ca/btsw](http://bikehub.ca/btsw)



# Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of May 14, 2024

Learning for a Lifetime

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

8. The Science Competition Club at Port Moody Secondary has placed 5<sup>th</sup> in Canada as a school for the Canadian Association of Physicists exam that was written in mid-April. In addition to the school's great results, student WeiWei Luo placed an impressive 5<sup>th</sup> individually in Canada!
  
9. SD43 students also excelled at the annual Concours d'art oratoire, held at the Surrey Campus of SFU on Saturday, May 4. Cailyn Sun and Alayna Merchant were both first round winners from a pool of 175 participants. Cailyn participated in the grade 11/12 immersion category and captured third place with her presentation "Les hazards de la procrastination" while Alayna brought home a first-place finish for her speech "L'égalité centre les hommes and les femmes".

The event is held annually in May and run provincially by the Canadian Parents for French BC & Yukon as the Concours d'art oratoire is held nationwide.

## Upcoming Events

May 16, 23, 30 – Tri-Cities Alumni Panels (SD43 alumni share experience in medical school, and undergraduate bachelor's programs in art and business).

May 20 – Victoria Day

May 23 – Understanding the Teenage Brain 6:30 – 8:00 pm – Family and Community Learning Series Session 7

May 28 – District STEAM Days

May 29 – Port Moody Secondary School 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

May 30 – Eagle Mountain Middle School 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration