



## Energy Team Welcome Message

Welcome back to a new school year!

Together, we have the opportunity to make our school district's community stronger in energy conservation and sustainability. This year, we're excited to work with you on fun and meaningful activities such as the Eco-challenge competition, the Ugly Sweater Campaign, Holiday Shutdowns, Clothing Swaps, Garden Clubs, Tree planting events, etc.

We also want to share your schools own sustainability projects and ideas with others. Whether it is a classroom initiative, a student-led event, or a school-wide activity, this newsletter is for you to show off what you have done across the district. If you send us information ahead of time, along with photos or short stories of your results, we'll be happy to feature and celebrate your efforts.

Remember, the Energy and Sustainability team is here to support you. By working together, we can create lasting habits and inspire a culture of sustainability in all our schools.

**OUR SCHOOLS, OUR ENERGY, OUR FUTURE**



# What we did during your break

## Maintenance Upgrades

Over summer, while students and staff enjoyed a well-deserved break, our District's Maintenance team were busy preparing schools for the new year. From essential upgrades to improvements that enhance comfort and efficiency, their hard work ensured your schools were ready to welcome you back.



## Heating Systems Upgrades!

New high-efficiency heating systems were installed at several schools, including Como Lake, Baker Drive, Alderson, Central, and Hillcrest. These upgrades will keep classrooms warm in the winter while also helping our district use less energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



## New Domestic Hot Waters Systems

Domestic Hot Water upgrades at Citadel Middle, Harbour View Elementary, Meadowbrook Elementary and Riverside Secondary.



## New Lighting Systems!

Over the summer our electricians were working hard on LED lighting upgrades at both, Pitt River Middle and Centennial Secondary. We hope to continue with James Park Elementary and Coquitlam River Elementary over the next few months.

## Other work of our maintenance staff

Our Maintenance team were also busy with other important projects, including:

- At Port Moody Secondary, several portables received ramp and stair upgrades, and the tennis courts were resurfaced.
- A new sport court was installed at Banting Middle School.
- New outdoor learning spaces were built at Seaview Elementary and Westwood Elementary
- Exterior painting was completed at Porter Elementary, Baker Elementary, Moody Middle and Alderson Elementary.
- Roof replacement were completed at Eagle Ridge Elementary, Panorama Heights Elementary, Rochester Elementary, Roy Stibbs Elementary, Heritage Woods Secondary, and Leigh Elementary.
- New flooring was installed at Dr. Charles Best Secondary, Citadel Middle and several other schools had their gym floors redone.



**Thank you to our incredible maintenance staff for all their hard work this summer. Because of your dedication, our schools are safe, welcoming, and ready for a great new year. We're grateful for everything you do to support our students and staff!**

**THANK YOU!**

# Join Our Sustainable Leaders Committee!

Calling all Secondary and Middle school Sustainability Leaders. We want you to be a part of our Sustainable Leaders Committee this school year.

If you're passionate about sustainability, we'd love to have you on board!

Students representing their schools meet once a month online to discuss different sustainability ideas or initiatives they are planning. This is a great opportunity to meet like-minded students at other schools to collaborate and find ways to reduce waste.

If you're interested or want more information, please reach out to us at [apettyfer@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:apettyfer@sd43.bc.ca) or register the QR below to join our meetings.

If your school has any upcoming events that promote clubs, we would be happy to attend the event to let your students know about the District Sustainability Council (DSL). Please invite us.

**Let's work together to make a difference!**



[Register Here!](#)





## Thank You, Gardeners!

**A big thank you to the 45 schools participating in our vegetable and herb project!**

Over the summer, we have seen some of your gardens grow. We hope you are now enjoying the fruits of your labour and have vegetables and herbs for the Fall. We encourage you to keep caring for your gardens and plan for the year ahead.

Let's keep growing together!

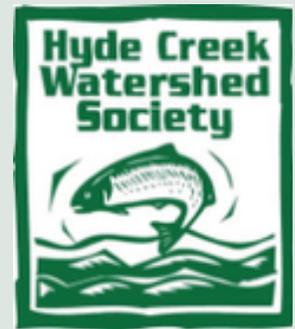


## » NEXT EXPLORE HYDE CREEK WATERSHED SOCIETY'S PROGRAMS

Do you want hands-on learning about nature, streams, salmon, and what makes a healthy watershed? The Hyde Creek Watershed Society offers hands-on educational programs for students, including:

-  **Hatchery Tours** – Explore the salmon life cycle
-  **Bug Expeditions** – Investigate stream insects
-  **Storm Drain Marking** – Protect streams from pollution
-  **Healthy Watershed Program** – Learn how streams support life

 Programs run year-round (50 minutes each, max 25 students).



Click [here](#) for more information

## APPLE DIVERSITY HYBRID WORKSHOP » NEXT



Spring into learning this October with the Apple Diversity Hybrid Workshop, offered by the UBC Botanical Garden Schools Program for grades K-7 to K-12 across Metro Vancouver. It's free, hands-on and full of tasty science!

Click [here](#) for more information



# Teacher Professional Development



## Plants, People and Place - Free Online Teacher Series

Explore the “Plants, People & Place” series - a free, 10-part online professional learning experience tailored for K-12 teachers.



### What you'll get:

- Insightful monthly Zoom sessions (60- 75 minutes).
- Expert presenters (Researchers, Educators and Indigenous Knowledge keepers).
- Engaging themes exploring the interplay between plants, land, biodiversity, ecology, culture and art.
- Practical ideas to foster experimental, plant-centered learning in your school.

For registration support and more information click [here](#).



**MORE EVENTS!**

## Circular Economy Ambassador Program (CEAP)

**Mind Your Plastic** invites schools to join the free Circular Economy Ambassador Program (CEAP). Designed for students ages 5 - 18, the program offers curriculum-aligned resources, hands-on activities like waste audits and cleanups, and the chance to contribute data to a national database influencing policy. Register by **November 15, 2025** for Spring 2026 start.



Learn more [here](#)

## Watershed Workforce: Lower Fraser

Rivershed Society of BC is offering free-two-day overnight experience for youth ages 15-20 in the Lower Fraser to get hands-on in the field of restoration and learn about diverse careers in watershed stewardship.

Learn more [here](#)



# What is going on at your school?



Embedding sustainability into teaching not only reduces our environmental footprint but also empowers students with the skills to address climate challenges. Each initiative in our schools becomes part of a broader learning journey toward a resilient and sustainable future.

At Coquitlam School District, we believe in the power of collective action for a sustainable future. If you or your school is making a positive impact on the environment, we want to celebrate and share your achievements with the community.

Connect with Adrian Pettyfer at [apettyfer@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:apettyfer@sd43.bc.ca) to share your eco-champion stories. Let's work together to get the word out and inspire more positive change.

