



ABOUT US

Greetings from the District's Sustainability and Energy Management Team!

We work with BC Hydro, Clean BC, and Fortis BC to find ways to make our schools run more efficiently to reduce our carbon footprint. New LED lights at your school? That was us. New efficient heating system? We were there too. Holiday Shut Down competitions, us too, and so much more.

This newsletter is designed to let everyone know about SD43 sustainability initiatives. All through the District, great things are going on to make our students, our community, and our world more sustainable. We want to know what you are doing and how you are doing it.



Eco -Challenge Earth Day Week

Thank you to all the schools that participated in the Earth Day Eco Challenge. We wish we were able to reward all of you that participated.

Over 800 students and staff registered over the 5 days of the challenges, either in a team or individually. Each day had a different theme:

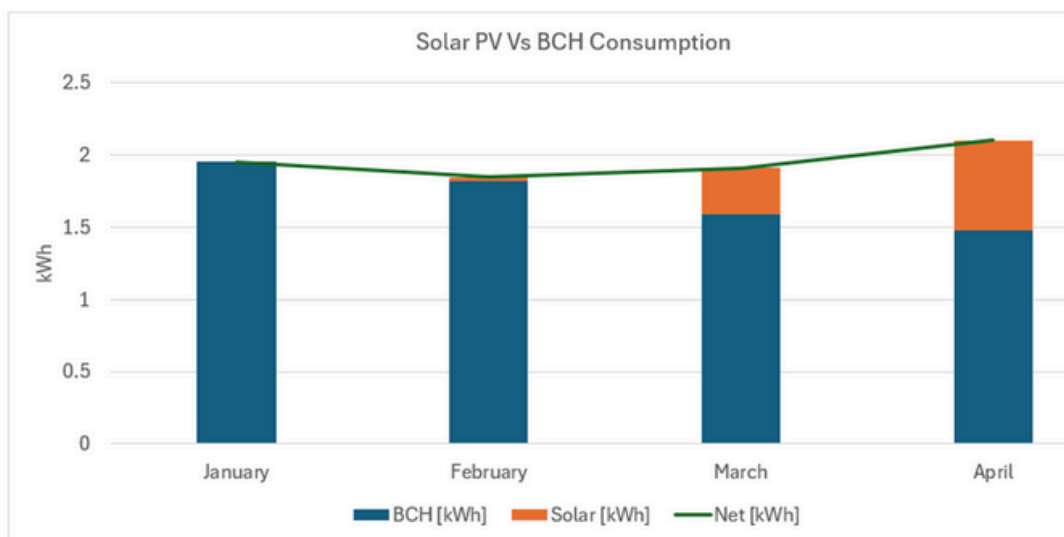
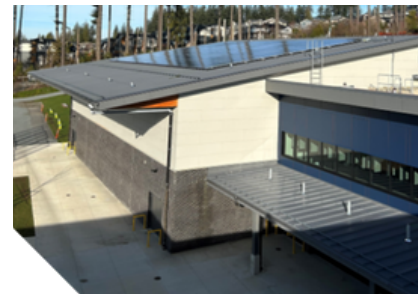
- Day 1- Individual Climate Action Pledge Day,
- Day 2- Reduce Electricity,
- Day 3-Reduce Natural Gas,
- Day 4- Reduce Lunch Waste, and
- Day 5- Use more sustainable transport.



Pizza Winning Teams	
School	Team Name
Como Lake Middle School	Como Lake Eco Club
Coquitlam River Elementary School	CRE Ecofriendly
Dr. Charles Best Secondary School	Dr. Charles Best Leadership
Heritage Woods Secondary School	No team
Irvine Elementary School	Div 14
Kilmer Elementary School	Les amis
Montgomery Middle School	Sievers' Superstars
Mundy Road Elementary School	Mundy Road Falcons
Riverside Secondary School	Nature's Grasp
Riverside Secondary School	Outdoor Ed

Coast Salish Elementary - Go Green!

The primary heat source at the Coast Salish school is an electric air source heat pump with high efficient gas-fired boilers as the backup. The gas purchased to fuel the boilers is 100% RNG (Renewable Natural Gas). In addition, there is a 52 KWP solar PV array on the roof.

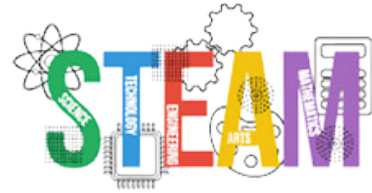


Energy Production
15.38 MWh



GHG Savings
6,335 Kg CO₂ eq

STEAM SUSTAINABILITY FAIR



Approximately 50 secondary students from 6 different schools (Centennial, Gleneagle, iHub, Terry Fox, Riverside, Dr. Charles Best) shared their learning with their STEAM-Sustainability projects.

Over 400 middle and elementary students (from Montgomery Middle, Maillard Middle, Como Lake Middle, Rochester El. And Hazel Trembath El.) visited the fair, voted on their favorite projects, and engaged in STEAM-based activities facilitated by our District STEAM Team.

SPRING GARDENS

41 school garden clubs received starter herbs and vegetables for their gardens during the last week of April.

Our Grounds department came through again picking up, sorting, and delivering the plants. This is perhaps the most well received program we have developed to engage our students in the importance of plants and the food supply.



GIANT PUMPKIN COMPETITION UPDATE



Dave Chan, the National Giant Pumpkin growing champion, along with his friend Trevor, planted 40 pumpkins for school. The seeds were taken from one of his Prize-winning pumpkins.

Dave joined us for a Teams meeting on May 17, to provide some growing advise. A recording was made for those that could not attend. Growing a really big pumpkin will be a great education in planning and preparation due to the many steps involved. For those who manage to maintain their plant through to October 31st, it will be a rewarding experience.



**The pumpkins should all be in the ground now.
The biggest pumpkin on Oct 31 wins the \$200 prize.**

We have delivered pumpkin plants to the 24 schools that signed up for the competition.



Congratulations SD43 Educators!

Two educators in School District 43 (SD43) were among the environmental champions recognized by the City of Coquitlam at an awards celebration on Saturday, June 1. Joanne Peressin of Nestor Elementary won the Lifetime Achievement Individual Award for her work with students on the life cycle of salmon, and Lynn Truong of Baker Drive Elementary received the Teacher or Educator accolade for her efforts with the Eco Bears Club.

Additionally, Gleneagle Secondary's Green Team was honored with the Youth Group, School or Club award for their community and environmental initiatives.

More information [here](#).



Some videos:

[Life Cycle of Plastic](#)

[The importance of Plants and Trees](#)

Note: Access to the links is limited to users with sd43 devices only.



ZERO WASTE AND VANCOUVER LANDFILL SCHOOL DAY

Thank you all participant to attended our Vancouver Landfill school day!

42 students enjoyed us for an unique day of experiential learning about the Vancouver landfill and the connections between waste, our communities and the environment.

It was interesting to receive information about how the the facility sorts and diverts waste from the landfill to lower costs and environmental impacts, uses hawks as a means of controlling seagulls and captures gas to convert to electricity.



Metro Vancouver Waste Learning



Some learning information from Metro Vancouver landfill to share reviewing the following links:

- 1) [An overview of Waste](#)
- 2) [Metro Vancouver Waste System Overview](#)
- 3) [Where does our waste go?](#)
- 4) [Solid waste management plan update.](#)
- 5) [Metro Vancouver Recycles](#)



Promotion, Education and Resources



RECYCLEBC™

We're excited to share a curriculum-based teaching resource we have developed focused on educating primary students (grade K-3) and intermediate students (grades 4-7).

Topics covered in the lessons include understanding personal values, learning about waste diversion, examining the environmental benefits of recycling, understanding the concept of a circular economy, and more topics that take students through the recycling process from their homes to the end of life for materials.

There are a number of activities for each subject so teachers can focus on the content that works best for them and their class.

One of our core values is supporting knowledge and information sharing, continuous learning and improvement. This includes strengthening the understanding of waste diversion and recycling, how Recycle BC's packaging and paper program works, and why and how to recycle.

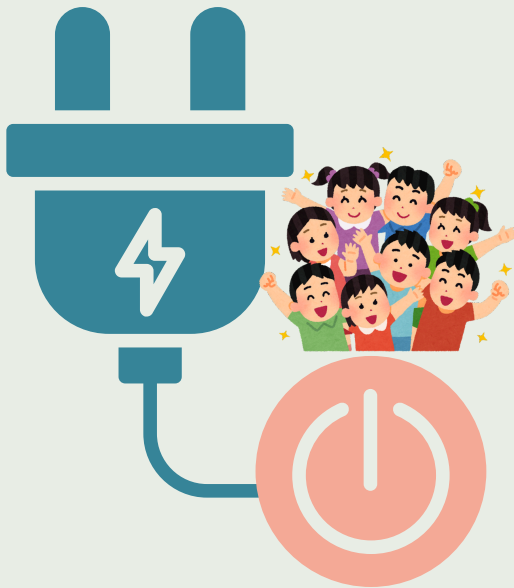
You can find the new curriculum-based resource and the Recycle BC colouring book, at RecycleBC.ca/Teacher-Resources.



Congratulations to our incredible maintenance staff for their outstanding work in upgrading the mechanical and electrical systems across our schools. Your dedication and hard work have significantly improved the safety, efficiency, and comfort of our educational facilities.



June 27th



We will be leaving our schools relatively empty over the summer holidays. Remember to shut down all electrical devices where possible for the long break ahead.

We will send out a handy checklist to all the schools on the last week to assist and identify what can and cannot be turn off.

We appreciate your participation.

Final Newsletter of the School Year



This is the final newsletter of this school year. We wish all the graduating students the best as you enter your next chapter in life.

Next Year we will continue to work with our students to further impact the importance of sustainability for all our actions. We hope to strengthen the Student Sustainability Council and get representation and involvement from all eight secondary schools.

We will continue to support schools with their sustainability initiatives and look forward to working with you towards improving our planet's wellbeing.



WHAT IS GOING ON AT YOUR SCHOOL?



Together, we can achieve more. Your contributions to our newsletter can inspire others to adopt eco-friendly habits and make a lasting impact.

**BE A PART OF
OUR
SUSTAINABILITY
SPOTLIGHT!**

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 to share your eco-champion stories. Let's work together to get the word out and inspire more positive change.



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ENERGY WIRE