



Dr. Charles Best Secondary Newsletter

Issue #8 – December 5, 2025

2525 Como Lake Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3J 3R8 604-461-5581

Website: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/charlesbest/Pages/default.aspx>

Principal – David Cyr

Vice-Principals – Tara Sutherland, Kelly Fridge, and Michael Viveiros

Our school goal is to develop a culture of connectedness and belonging within the school, among school staff, students, and our parent community, in order to enhance opportunities for collaborative partnerships.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, December 9 & Thursday, December 11

Care home visits to RJ Kent and Madison

Wednesday, December 10

Ski & Snowboard registration opens 9am

Winter Music Concert 7:00pm

Thursday, December 11

Me 'N Eds Pizza Fundraiser night

Tuesday, December 16

Student Reporting-Core Competencies (Assembly Bell Schedule)

Wednesday, December 17

Club and Fall/Winter Team photos

Friday, December 19

Last day of classes before Winter Break

Monday, January 5

Classes resume after Winter Break



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we approach the end of the semester, the energy around Blue Devil Nation is inspiring. Classrooms are engaged in learning, our teams and clubs are showing incredible spirit, and the pride our students bring to the building each day is unmistakable.

We also look ahead to important changes in our leadership team. As shared earlier, Ms. Kelly Fridge will be moving on to Gleneagle Secondary as Vice Principal after five impactful years here. Her leadership and care have left a lasting mark, and we are grateful for all she has contributed. At the same time, we are excited to welcome Ms. Jennifer Nelson, who will join us as Vice Principal (alpha H–O) at the start of the second semester. Ms. Nelson's experience and passion for student success will bring fresh energy to our community.

Beyond these transitions, our school continues to shine. Next week, our Winter Band Concert will showcase the incredible talent and dedication of our student musicians and their teacher, Mr. Hughes—a highlight of the season that always brings our community together. On the athletics front, we celebrate the Senior Girls Volleyball team, who capped off their season with an impressive 9th place finish at provincials. This marks the first time in 15 years that a senior girl's team has competed at that level, a testament to their hard work and determination.

Thank you for continuing to support the great work happening every day at our school.

Sincerely,
Dave Cyr
Principal

MOVEMBER



Thank you to all contributors to the Movember campaign and to our wonderful teachers for their participation!

(L-R)

Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Major, Mr. MacKay, Mr. Last, Mr. Raabe, Mr. Papillo, Mr. Poudre, Mr. Karmali.

HONOURS STANDING INFORMATION

IMPORTANT, PLEASE READ

As we move into the second half of Semester 1, we would like to share the criteria and timeline for Honours standing (Honour Roll, Honour Cord, and Honours with Distinction) at École Dr. Charles Best.

Honours standing, for grades 10 – 12, is calculated using the **final grades** for Semester 1 and the grades earned at **mid-term** in Semester 2, which takes place in **April 2026**. This practice of using mid-term marks is consistent across the district. Full year classes use end of Semester 1 marks only.

Honours standing is calculated using classes that are completed at École Dr. Charles Best, which means that online and summer school classes are not included.

We are sharing this information now, as we move into the 2nd half of the semester, so that parents and students are aware of the criteria, the timeline and can plan accordingly. Please discuss with your child the importance of either maintaining good work habits, or improving them, and talking to their teacher if Honours standing is a goal.

These proactive steps will help prevent disappointment when Honours standing is calculated in May 2026.

HONOURS STANDING CRITERIA

Grade 10 and 11	Grade 12
HONOUR ROLL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best 8 courses at École Dr. Charles Best • 73% or greater • Semester 1 Final marks and Semester 2 Mid-Term (April) marks are used to calculate Honours Standing; Full Year classes use Semester 1 Final marks 	HONOUR ROLL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best 8 courses including Career Life Connections 12 at École Dr. Charles Best • 73% or greater • Semester 1 Final marks and Semester 2 Mid-Term (April) marks are used to calculate Honours Standing; Full Year classes use Semester 1 Final marks HONOUR CORD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best 8 grade 11 and best 8 grade 12 courses at École Dr. Charles Best • 73% or higher
HONOURS WITH DISTINCTION Grades 10 - 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best 8 courses at École Dr. Charles Best • 86% or greater in Semester 1 Final marks and Semester 2 Mid-Term (April) marks; Full Year classes use Semester 1 Final marks 	

SKI/SNOWBOARD CLUB WINTER 2026

This year, we are organizing two trips to Whistler/Blackcomb. A maximum of 50 students will be able to register for each trip. Registration will be done on a first come first served basis. A registration link will be shared with parents via School Cash Online accounts next week on **Wednesday, December 10 at 9am. It is not possible to register earlier than Dec. 10.**

Fees must be paid in full on School Cash Online accounts.

- Refunds will only be permitted up to 2 weeks prior to the scheduled date. -

Cost Breakdown:

The cost includes the following: Bus transportation, \$25 lunch voucher, snacks and drinks, club T-Shirt, no line up on the hill for students, mountain guide (for experienced skiers) or instructor (for beginners) with every small group to ensure safety.

Cost with no Rental equipment \$151.50

<https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com/>

Cost including Rental equipment: \$191.50

January 22, 2026

This date will be exclusively for grade 9 and 10 students.

Only parents of grade 9 and 10 students will receive the registration link for this trip.

In the event of a sellout, please call the office to inquire about a waitlist opportunity.

March 13, 2026

The date will be exclusively for grade 11 and 12 students.

Only parents of grade 11 and 12 students will receive the registration link for this trip.

In the event of a sellout, please call the office to inquire about a waitlist opportunity.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The construction team spent today pouring concrete for the second floor of the structure.

Following this stage, you will begin to see the steel studs rising, and once the roof is in place, the internal structures will really start to take shape. It's an exciting milestone as our new building continues to come together.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation as we move forward with this important project.

STUDENT PARKING UPDATE

We are now at capacity for student parking in the upper parking lot. The upper lot is restricted for student pass holders and staff parking ONLY. Student parking for non-pass holders is available at the Coquitlam Alliance Church which is a short walk away at the corner of Mariner Way and Spuraway Avenue. Students are to park at the back of the church lot.

SCHOOL WIDE ASSESSMENTS/EVENTS JANUARY 19-23, 2026

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Mon. Jan. 19	Tues. Jan. 20	Wed. Jan. 21	Thurs. Jan. 22	Fri. Jan. 23
No regular classes in session	No regular classes in session	No regular classes in session	No regular classes in session	No regular classes in session
MORNING SESSIONS			ALL DAY EVENT	ALL DAY EVENT
<p>AM 8:15-11:30 Literacy 10 Assessment Student last names A - LID</p> <p>AM 9:45 -11 Grade 9 Presentation in Main Gym Students with last names A - LEE</p>	<p>AM 8:15-11:30 Literacy 12 Assessment Student last names A - LEM</p> <p>AM 9 – 10:30 11am – 12:30pm *Grade 9 Digital Literacy Assignment (Students check DL TEAMS in Jan. for additional info.) **Any students who are behind will be asked to stay with their teacher for the afternoon.</p>	<p>AM 8:15-11:30 Numeracy 10 Assessment Student last names A - LIU, C.</p> <p>AM 9:15-10:45 *Grade 11 Presentations Students with last names A - LEE</p>	<p>Capstone Day 10am-2:45pm All grade 12's will be scheduled to present and observe Capstone presentations.</p> <p>Gr 11's will also be scheduled to observe Capstone presentations as part of their CLC 12 course.</p> <p>Students with last names A – LEE arrive at 10:15am finish at 12pm</p> <p>Students with last names LEF - Z arrive 12:45pm finish at 2:30pm</p>	<p>Grade 8 School Tour Most current Charles Best students will not attend; only those helping with the event or those requested by a teacher should attend.</p>
AFTERNOON SESSIONS				
<p>PM 11:45-3:00 Literacy 10 Assessment Student last names LIM - Z</p> <p>PM 12:45-2 Grade 9 Presentation in Main Gym Students with last names LEM – Z</p> <p>PM 11:45-1:30 FRAL Oral Assessment Room lists will be posted in the front foyer</p>	<p>PM 11:45-3:00 Literacy 12 Assessment Student last names LEV - Z</p>	<p>PM 11:45-3:00 Numeracy 10 Assessment Student last names LIU, E. to Z</p> <p>PM 12:45-2 *Grade 11 Presentations Students with last names A - LEE</p>		
<p>*All Grades – I Days Instructional support, work completion opportunities hosted by all teachers; students to schedule time with their teachers.</p>	<p>*All Grades – I Days Instructional support, work completion opportunities hosted by all teachers; students to schedule time with their teachers.</p>	<p>*All Grades – I Days Instructional support, work completion opportunities hosted by all teachers; students to schedule time with their teachers.</p>	<p>*All Grades – I Days Instructional support, work completion opportunities hosted by all teachers; students to schedule time with their teachers.</p>	

SCHOOL WIDE ASSESSMENTS/EVENTS JANUARY 19-23, 2026 CONTINUED

All students in grade 10 are required to write the Numeracy 10 and Literacy 10 assessment and all grade 12's are required to write the Literacy 12 assessment during the week of January 19th, 2026. Please see the "Assessment Snapshot" below for specific times and dates. Room lists will be posted in the front foyer by January 9th. Students are expected to bring with them a fully charged laptop, charging cable, and pencil to their assessments.

*****Students are reminded that assessments are Ministry of Education requirements for graduation. Assessments and all other events occurring January 19-23 fall under instructional time, so student attendance is mandatory this week.**

NOTE: All FRIM 12 semester one students will be completing the FRAL 12 Written assessment on TUESDAY, JAN 13th from 8:15am-11:15am. Students will be excused from their morning classes that day.

CORE COMPETENCIES

The latest reporting order requires that all students complete a self-assessment of their Core Competency development, and that they set goals related to those competencies. **On Tuesday, December 16th we will run an Assembly Bell schedule** to provide students the opportunity to report on their Core Competencies. Students who have a period 2 class will stay with their period 2 teacher who will assist them in completing their reflections and posting to their EduBlog accounts. Those students who do not have a scheduled period 2 class will be assigned a teacher and room to report to during the 10:35am-11:45am assembly time to complete their competency reflection.

NOTE: Grade 9 students will complete this in a word document. Parents can view their reflection on their child's DL class TEAMS. The student reflection will be posted on their EduBlog in January

Students are expected to regularly engage in self-assessment activities within their classes, providing opportunities to reflect on and summarize their growth across the Core Competencies.

Students can choose the format that best suits their learning style to do this summary: video of a relevant performance, a poem, a voice recording, graphic organizer, essay, photo montage...

When creating this summative post, consider the following:

- **Competency/ Facet to address** – The [Core Competencies](#) are broad and complex, are assumed to develop from “womb to tomb”. We recommend you choose 1-3 facets to describe.
- **Audience** – parents, potential employers, teachers are your audience.
- **Framework** – Students choose a template format or process that works for them, but a helpful way for you to describe how your Core Competencies are developing might be, “I used to...; Now I... (with evidence, examples); In the Future, I will/ could...”
- **Evidence** – include experiences, feedback, images that help clarify/ exemplify your strengths and areas of growth
- **Goals** – what strategies might you practice, or experiences will you seek, in order to further develop specific facets of the Core Competencies?

Once the summary is created, students should post the product on their EduBlog and we encourage them to share it with families as a part of the reflective process. Below are links to videos that remind students **how to log in** to and **how to post** in their EduBlog.

[Edublog Login-20220913_082858.webm](#)

[How to make Posts & Comments on EduBlog-20201111_083025.mp4](#)

CLOTHING DRIVE UPDATE

To all members and families of the Dr Charles Best Secondary community,

On behalf of Tri-Cities Community Action Team, Hope For Freedom, Progressive and the peer workers doing outreach, we want to thank you from the bottom of our collective hearts.

The clothing and winter supply drives in October and November were a huge success. Once again, Best brought in the bulk of the donations! These donations are life saving for those facing a winter without a local shelter in place.

We wanted to make special mention of the amazing heart your school community has. From the students to the staff, to the administrators, to the families all jumping in to assist their community's needs.

Youth Worker, Heather Bjornson has done a remarkable job coordinating all these efforts, thank you. This is all made possible by the tireless efforts of Principal Dave Cyr to keep community as the core focus for the student body, thank you.

The generosity cannot be captured in words but is deeply felt by those receiving these donations along with a warm meal (weekly) all provided by this school's sense of community service.

We thank you and wish you all a wonderful holiday season.

All the best,

Michelle Jacobsen - Tri-Cities Community Action Team

WINTER MUSIC CONCERT DEC. 10

The music department will present its annual Christmas Concert on **Wednesday, December 10th at 7:00pm** in the big gym. Come hear all six ensembles perform many of your Christmas favourites. Doors open at 6:30 and admission is by donation. We hope you will join us; it will be a great way for you to kick off your holiday season!

CLUB/TEAM PHOTOS DEC. 17

Artona will be on site the afternoon of **Wednesday, December 17th** to capture all Clubs and Fall/Winter team photos. Mr. Viveiros will be sharing a spread sheet of the schedule to Club Sponsor Teachers, Club Leaders, and Fall/Winter Athletic Coaches to sign up for a timeslot. Spring teams will be photographed on March 11, 2026.

POST SECONDARY EVENTS

NATIONAL PORTFOLIO DAY

Did you miss the recent in-person event? On **Saturday, December 6, 9 am - 1 pm**, you'll have another opportunity to get feedback on your portfolio before submitting your application to arts and architecture programs.

[Sign up for the virtual event.](#)

DUTCH UNIVERSITY COLLEGES WEBINAR

Are you hoping to take your post-secondary education abroad? Discover eight Dutch University Colleges that were established by top-ranked research universities in response to a growing demand for a more holistic type of education. The offered Liberal Arts & Science degrees foster critical thinking and academic excellence through unique curriculums and small class-sizes. Study and live together with students from all across the world. Register to [learn more](#) on **December 15, 11:00 & 19:00 CET** (2 am & 10 am PT)

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

WESTERN NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Various awards of up to \$70,000 are available, recognizing all-round excellence. Must have a +90% average on all relevant Grade 12 courses, demonstrated creative and innovative thought, exceptional achievement in extracurriculars (i.e. athletics, arts), a commitment to community service, and a passion for learning. We can nominate 4 students (plus 1 international student). Submit your completed [Western brag sheet](#) to skaufmann@sd43.bc.ca **by the end of Sunday, December 14.**

SFU UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS ENTRANCE AWARDS

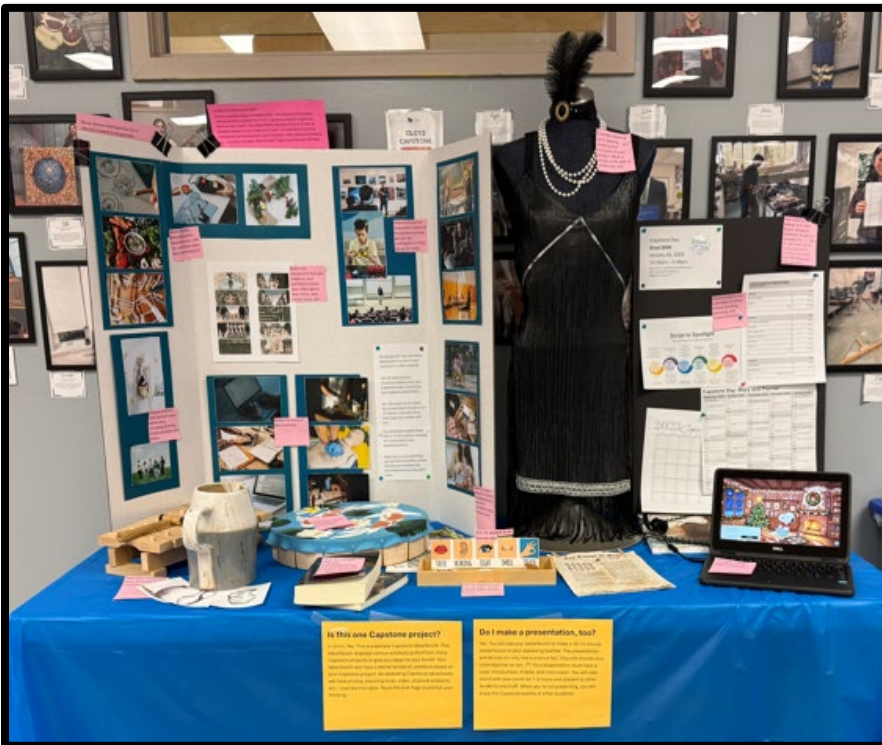
Reminder: If you have applied to SFU and your grade 11 & 12 marks (in approved academics) average +90% you may be eligible for their entrance scholarships, up to \$60,000 for domestic students, and \$140,000 for international students. Strong extracurricular activities and references are required. [Apply](#) **by December 15.**

FRENCH NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

If you are in grades 10, 11, or 12, you could win one of 100 scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$28,000 to study (completely or partially) in French at one of the 16 partnering post-secondary institutions all over the country. Invest in your future, en français! **Deadline: December 19.** [More info.](#)

GRADE 12 INFORMATION

CAPSTONE DAY IS ON JANUARY 22, 2026



Details? Students will sign-up to present their Capstone at either 10:30am or 1:00pm. This year, they will set up a table/booth in a room and host visitors at their booth for the full 1.5 hours, including one visit from an assessing teacher. When students are not presenting (Shift1/Shift2), they will enjoy a chance to walk around the school to celebrate the accomplishments of their fellow grads. An example "extending" booth is on display in room 309 (image above). Trifold boards are available for loan. Visit room 309 for support on all things related to Capstone and CLC12.

GRAD WEAR UPDATE (2ND ORDER)

Total Spirit Cheerleading: *"Our embroidery team says they should be able to get it done at a 3 week timeline and then we will pack it by student. Hopefully this will be done before your Christmas break if there are no delays. However, this is peak season right now & things do change on a day-by-day basis."*

Capstone Day is on **January 22, 2026**, from 10:00am – 2:30pm.

Attendance is mandatory for all Grade 12's for the full day.

The event will start promptly at 10:00am in the large gym.

An event schedule is below.

10:00am – 10:30am

Attendance and opening ceremony in the large gym.

10:30am – 12:00pm

Shift 1 - in various classrooms around the school.

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Lunch (students should pack a lunch) in Devil's Den area

1:00pm – 2:30pm

Shift 2 - in various classrooms around the school.

2:30pm – 2:45pm

Name tag return and closing ceremony in the large gym.

[ONLINE SILENT AUCTION – AFTERGRAD 2026 FUNDRAISER](#)

Please check out our online silent auction! Each item up for bid has been generously donated by our supporters, partners and sponsors. All proceeds will directly benefit our dry After Grad in May.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/aftergrad2026-online-silent-auction>

[AFTERGRAD PLANNING UPDATE](#)

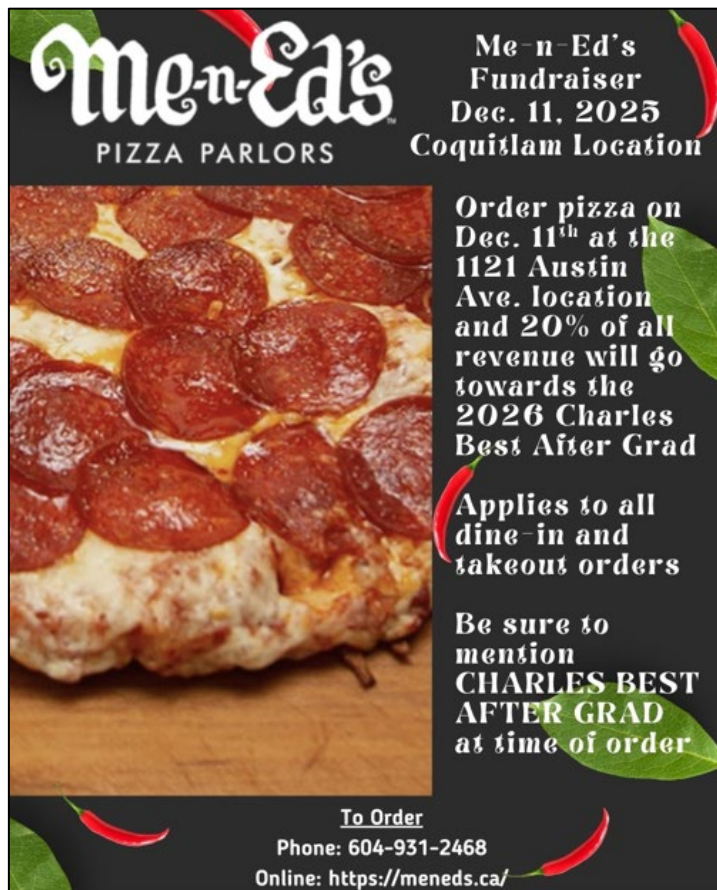
The AfterGrad2026 would like to thank all the vendors, families, volunteers and school staff who made the Winter Market a success despite a power outage that threatened the event! We would also like to thank all the families, volunteers and school staff for their support and success of the Growing Smiles and Purdy's fundraisers. Thank you! Our next steps are to update our finances and plan the AfterGrad decorations and entertainment. The students chose a Las Vegas theme and asked that decorations be minimal so more focus can be placed on entertainment and prizes. The decorations and entertainment committees have had an initial meeting and will need a second one to put together a preliminary plan. We will then set up the next AfterGrad2026 Parent Planning Meeting to go over the plan and next steps. This will most likely be in January so stay tuned for the date of the next AfterGrad2026 Parent Planning Meeting. Please join us to help make this AfterGrad party a blast for our grads!! If you would like to receive more information or wondering how you can help, please email us at bestgrad2026@gmail.com. Stay informed on all the latest AfterGrad news; follow us at BestGrad2026 on Facebook & Instagram or email us at bestgrad2026@gmail.com.

[DONATIONS TO SUPPORT AFTERGRAD](#)

Are you a Best family who would like to support the AfterGrad? Do you have a Best grad student but you are unable to volunteer your time and are looking for a way to support the AfterGrad fundraising? Here are a couple of great ways you can still help:

1. Make a donation through the SCOL @ <https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com/>.
2. If you own a business or know someone who does, please consider donating to the AfterGrad Online Silent Auction or for AfterGrad prizes. Interested families please email bestgrad2026@gmail.com to request the donation marketing letter. Thank you for your support!

[AFTERGRAD FUNDRAISER DEC. 11, 2025](#)



Men-Ed's
PIZZA PARLORS

Me-n-Ed's
Fundraiser
Dec. 11, 2025
Coquitlam Location

Order pizza on Dec. 11th at the 1121 Austin Ave. location and 20% of all revenue will go towards the 2026 Charles Best After Grad

Applies to all dine-in and takeout orders

Be sure to mention **CHARLES BEST AFTER GRAD** at time of order

To Order
Phone: 604-931-2468
Online: <https://meneds.ca/>

[INLET SKATING CLUB PRESENTS.....](#)



inlet
SKATING CLUB

ICE SHOW

Holiday MOVIE NIGHT

SATURDAY
6 DECEMBER, 2025

SHOWS AT 9AM & 11AM
AT PORT MOODY REC CENTER

TICKET W [2025 Ice Show: Holiday Movie Night](#)

Ticket link:

[PAC CORNER](#)


There is no PAC meeting in December. Please join us for our next Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting on **Monday, January 12th, 2026, at 7pm** in the school library. All parents and caregivers are welcome! Principal Dave Cyr will also be in attendance to provide school updates and answer questions.

Please check out the PAC website for more information on how your PAC works for you and how you can get involved: <https://bestpaccomms.wixsite.com/drcharlesbestpac>. OR contact us at bestpacchair@gmail.com for any questions.

For updated news please follow us at charlesbestpac on Instagram or Facebook. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting! Best wishes for the holiday season.

Did you know? You can **DONATE TO THE PAC ONLINE!** Parent donations to the Charles Best PAC help to support various aspects of your student's educational experience. Each year, the PAC provides much-needed funds to support activities such as extracurricular clubs, AfterGrad, teacher appreciation, and student scholarships. Login to your student's portal on the SchoolCash Online system to make your PAC donation today!

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY



PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Kindergarten Programs of Choice and Late
French Immersion for September 2026 Entry

Wednesday, December 10, 2025
SD43 Education Learning Centre
1080 Winslow Ave., Coquitlam


6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Kindergarten Programs of Choice Presentation:
French Immersion, Mandarin Bilingual and Montessori

7:15 pm - 8:15 pm

Late French Immersion Presentation
(for students entering Grade 6 in September 2026)

*Note: While identified as part of the overall presentation on the programs,
these sessions do not focus on the registration process.



This event is **FREE** and open to all interested
parents/ caregivers. No registration is required!

Learn more: www.sd43.bc.ca/programs

CONSIDER A DONATION TO SHARE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Your generosity will help provide nutritious food and meaningful holiday support
to more than 2,000 families across the Tri-Cities.

DONATE TO SHARE




COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD FOR FAMILIES

[Fraser Health: keep your child healthy during winter](#)

[The Snow Angels Program](#)

[All Ages Poetry Slam](#)

[Imagine This Musical Theatre Workshops](#)

We are delighted to invite your students and families to a **Free Christmas Community Event** hosted at the **Poirier Leisure Centre (Room 1)** on **Saturday, December 13th, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.**

This festive event is designed to bring joy and creativity to children while also encouraging **fun continuous learning throughout the holiday period** — whether through reading books, exploring creative activities, or building positive study habits.

🎄 Event Highlights

- 🎨 Christmas Card Making
- 🎁 Ornament Designing & Decorating
- 🍪 Sweets and Treats
- 🖍️ Colouring Activities
- 📖 Holiday Study Skills Tips (time management, learning habits)
- 📖 Free Reading & Math Assessments for Students

Our aim is to provide a fun, supportive environment where children can celebrate the season, express their creativity, and gain confidence in their learning as they prepare for the new year.

Warm regards,

Kam - Parent of children at Charles Best Secondary and Ranch Park Elementary Schools.

Let's celebrate together!

FREE CHRISTMAS EVENT

STUDY SKILLS & TIME MANAGEMENT

CHRISTMAS CARD MAKING **BUILD LEARNING HABITS**

ORNAMENT PAINTING **TIPS ON SHORT STUDY SESSIONS TO GAIN MORE!**

FREE READING AND MATHS ASSESSMENTS

Saturday 13th December **11 am to 2:00 pm**

Poirier Leisure Centre, Room 1 – Ground Floor 633 Poirier St, Coquitlam, BC V3J 2N4