



# COMO LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

BY MRS. DEVON ROSS

Dear Como Lake Families,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and joyful winter break. We are excited to begin 2026 together and continue building on the strong sense of community, learning, and connection that defines Como Lake Middle School. January is already off to a lively start, and we are thrilled to share what's happening around the building.

Students returned on January 5, and the halls quickly filled with energy as classes settled back into routines. Academic learning is in full swing and both basketball and wrestling practices are well underway. Games and meets for both winter sports have also started. Our Mountain Riders ski and snowboard program continues on Thursdays, giving many students a chance to enjoy outdoor learning and physical activity in a unique setting. Thank you to families for

coordinating equipment and early-morning routines to make this possible. It is wonderful to see so many students involved in our extra-curricular activities.

January also brings important transition events for our Grade 8 students. Both Centennial and Charles Best Secondary hosted course-planning sessions and parent information meetings throughout the month. Course entry through MyEd for both feeder secondary schools will take place on January 28 and 30. These events help students feel confident and prepared as they look ahead to high school.

Leadership students hosted a Lunch Fundraiser on January 22 with funds going to support school programs. We appreciate their ongoing initiative and your community spirit and support of our fundraisers.

*Principal's Message continued on next page...*

**Principal's Message continued on next page...**

As you may have noticed, the school was able to cover the cost of skating for all students and reduce our Britannia Mine Field Trip cost for all families as a result of these fundraisers. Speaking of Britannia Mines, we are so excited for students to attend this academic field trip in early February. Students will have the chance to engage in hands-on, experiential learning in alignment with our curriculum.

Congratulations to Como's grade 6 student, Oliver Soh, for his bronze medal in the Queen's Commonwealth Essay Contest! Read more about this achievement on page 3.

As always, thank you for your support, involvement, and partnership. We are looking forward to a wonderful month of learning, growth, and connection.

Sincerely,  
Devon Ross  
Principal, Como Lake Middle School

**LOST & FOUND**

*Lost & Found is overflowing!*

Jackets, lunch boxes, water bottles, and more are waiting to be reunited with their owners. Please stop by to check the Lost and Found.

All unclaimed items will be donated on **Wednesday, January 28.**

**IMPORTANT DATES:****JANUARY**

**Thursday, January 29**

- Mountain Riders 12:00 - 8:00 pm

**FEBRUARY**

**Monday, February 2**

- Div 13, 14 and 15 Britannia Mine field trip 9:00 am - 3:00 pm



**Thursday, February 5**

- Mountain Riders 12:45 - 8:00 pm
- Genius Hour All Play



**Tuesday, February 10**

- Div 13, 14 and 15 Skating field trip 8:40 - 12:20



**Thursday, February 12**

- Mountain Riders 12:45 - 8:00 pm
- Genius Hour All Play



**Monday, February 16**

- BC Family Day - School Closed



**Tuesday, February 17**

- Div 9 and 11 Skating Field Trip 8:50 - 11:10 AM
- 3-Way Conferences 2:00 - 5:00 PM
- Early Dismissal at 2:00 p.m.



**Wednesday, February 18**

- 3-Way Conferences 2:00 - 5:00 pm
- Early Dismissal at 2:00 p.m.
- TCBY PAC Fundraiser
- PAC Meeting at 7 pm



**Thursday, February 19**

- Mountain Riders 12:45 - 8:00 pm
- Genius Hour All Play



**Monday, February 23**

- Winter Band Concerts (See page 3)



**Wednesday, February 25**

- Pink Shirt Day



**Thursday, February 26**

- Mountain Riders 12:45 - 8:00 pm
- Genius Hour All Play
- Domino's Pizza Family Night (PAC Fundraiser)



**Friday, February 27**

- Pro D Day (School Closed)

Calendar is available on our website under the heading 'On the Calendar'

[Como Lake Website](#)



## Oliver Soh, Grade 6 Student, Receives a Bronze Placement in the 2025 Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition

We are so incredibly proud to celebrate Oliver Soh, grade 6 student in Division 5, for his bronze in the Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition. There were thousands and thousands of entries making his achievement even more spectacular.

His topic was: Voyages - Describe a sea voyage between Commonwealth nations, focusing on sights and encounters.

Here is his first paragraph of his submission:

**"CHAPTER 1: The Boarding.**

Up in the crow's nest, the salty wind in my face, the sound of the Journey's hull splashing against the salty cold waters below... Ship Ho! I shouted at the first glimpse of a boat. I gasp as I see the flag. Pirates! Such horrid people! As I look down to see the deck, I immediately notice the chaos among the crew, people scrambling to get to their position, tripping and stumbling too. Suddenly there is a loud boom, and I see a cannon ball as black as night streaking across the sky towards us! It misses us, but I can see some crew members freeze, fazed by the cannon ball. Soon enough we fire back, long and strong for what feels like hours. But it is too late. The pirates have boarded our ship."

## PINK T-SHIRT DAY

Wear Pink on **Wednesday, February 25!**

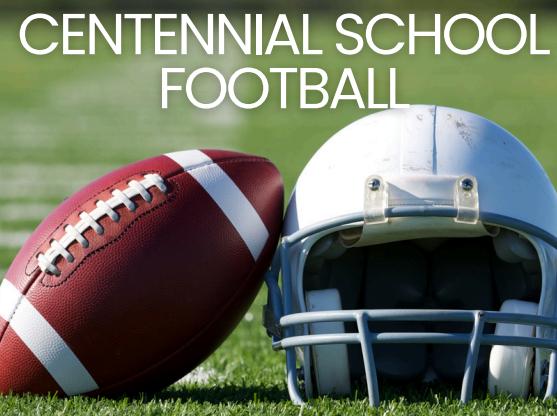


This is an excellent chance to talk to your children about ways they can be champions of kindness and respect at home, at school, and in the community.

## YEARBOOK ORDERS

**Yearbook orders will close on Wednesday, February 27 at 11:59 p.m.**

The cost is \$40 for a yearbook. The Student Activity Fee and Athletic Fee must be paid before the yearbook is distributed at the end of the school year. Although we always order a few extras, we cannot guarantee that one can be purchased in June. Please ensure that you pre-order to avoid any disappointments at the end of the year.



Interested in playing football at Centennial Secondary?

### MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL CAMP

**Friday, February 27**  
**12:00 – 3:00 p.m.**



**GO CENTAURS!  
COMMIT  
EVERYDAY  
NO EXCUSES  
TRUST THE PROCESS**



## 3 WAY CONFERENCES



Optional 3 Way Conferences will be held on **Tuesday, February 17 and Wednesday, February 18 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on both days.** Please contact your child's teacher if you want to schedule a meeting.

Students have an **early dismissal at 2:00 p.m. on both days.**



### PAC FUNDRAISER WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Pre-ordering will be available on School Cash Online once flavours have been selected.  
Stay tuned!

**Please order on School Cash Online by 11:59 p.m. Sunday, February 15**





# Domino's® TRI - CITIES

## FAMILY PIZZA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Thursday, February 26, 2026

Domino's Austin Ave will donate 20% of all orders placed on February 26!  
Please mention "Como Lake Middle" when placing your order.

Domino's Austin Ave  
1206 Austin Ave, Coquitlam  
Ph: 604-937-5755

## 2026 Student Learning Survey

The Student Learning Survey is for students in grade 4, 7, 10, 11, and 12, their parents, staff and administrators. It is an annual survey that gathers feedback from students, parent and staff in public schools to assess educational experiences and improve school environments.

The Student Learning Survey aims to collect insights on various aspects of the educational experience, including:

- **Curriculum Implementation:** Feedback on how well the curriculum changes are being integrated into classrooms.
- **Learning Environment:** Assessing the safety, inclusivity, and overall atmosphere of the school.
- **Student Wellness and Satisfaction:** Understanding how students feel about their school experience and their emotional well-being.
- **Engagement and Belonging:** Evaluating how connected students feel to their school community and their level of engagement in learning activities.

While Grade 7 students have completed this survey at school, we ask that parents/guardians complete this survey by clicking on this link:

**[Student Learning Survey - Province of British Columbia](#)**

Survey will be available online until **May 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please contact the school if you have difficulty using the online survey. Please complete one survey for each child.

### **Parent Logon Steps:**

1. Select District: **43 Coquitlam**
2. Select School: **Como Lake Middle School**
3. Select Language: Default to English but can be changed to a different language.



# WINTER BAND CONCERTS

**Monday, February 23, 2026**

We are excited to celebrate the efforts of our Beginner and Advanced Band students with a Winter Band Concert on **Monday, February 23**. This is a time to highlight our school's credo and showcase the way our students contribute and shine. Our Beginner Band will be sharing some familiar tunes and our Advanced Band will provide us with some inspiration from some classic movie marathons.

## **1st Event:**

**Winter Concert for Students and Staff  
(Blk 7: 2:15-2:55pm)**

The school will gather for an informal assembly in Block 7 in which both bands will perform a series of songs with our school community.

## **2nd Event:**

**Winter Band Concert for Families**

Families and friends are invited to gather in the gym after school for an afternoon of musical entertainment.





# Cross Catchment Applications for September 2026 Entry

**FEBRUARY 6**

Cross Catchment Applications OPEN at 9 AM

**FEBRUARY 11**

Cross Catchment Applications CLOSE at 4 PM

## APPLY ONLINE!



Look for the link to the application form on the FRONT PAGE of [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)



*For students who wish to transfer to another school that is not their neighbourhood catchment school*

## CROSS CATCHMENT APPLICATIONS

Parents sometimes wish for their children to attend a school that is not their catchment school.

School District 43 uses a random draw process for Cross Catchment Applications (using in-district priority, then out-of-district).

If enrollment projections show that space is available, Cross Catchment transfer applications will be accepted in accordance with the following priorities:

1. sibling of a child who will be in attendance at the Cross Catchment school in the following year;
2. a child residing within the SD43 residential boundaries (could include private or homeschool); and
3. non-school district resident child.

For schools with capacity issues, the district may use grade and program-specific placements as well as one-to-one school placements to accommodate student movement in the process.

The **School Locator Tool** provides a student's designated catchment area schools. Catchment is based on permanent home address. Student address must correspond to the address in the school's record system.

**Cross Catchment applications for September 2026 (School Year 2026-27) opens at 9:00 am February 6, 2026 and closes February 11, 2026 at 4:00 pm. The link will be available on the front page of our website at [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca).**

Parents/guardians will receive an email about the application results during the first week of March. Schools will contact successful applicants shortly after.



# COMO LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL PAC

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT PAC MEETING WEDNESDAY, February 18 @ 7 P.M.

Meeting will be held in person at the school Library and via Teams online.

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 298 579 406 390 70

Passcode: dx7ad3pM

Dial in by phone

+1 647-794-6047,,570045471# Canada, Toronto

Find a local number

Phone conference ID: 570 045 471#

 [comolakemiddlepac@gmail.com](mailto:comolakemiddlepac@gmail.com)

## Ongoing Fundraisers

All proceeds go towards events/items for the students & teachers!



15 Braid St, Unit 221, New West

Drive to the end of the commercial unit, on the NW side.  
Reference Como Lake Middle PAC when dropping off clothing, bedding, linens, shoes, bags.



Any Return-It Express location

Reference **647-828-3404**  
when printing label

## PAC DONATION PROGRAM 2025-2026

Every year, our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) raises funds for learning materials, based on school goals; sports equipment for classrooms, intramurals, and extra-curricular activities; library materials; emergency preparedness supplies; technology equipment and many other "extras". These items are all made available for use by our children, as a result of PAC fundraising initiatives.

PAC Donations can be made on [School Cash Online](#).

100% of your donation goes directly to the school for items your child will use. You may choose to donate any amount. Business donations are also welcome.

Please note that only donations of \$25.00 or more, will receive an income tax receipt from the school district, which are provided early in the new year.

The website screenshot shows the school's logo in the top left. The main navigation bar includes links for Staff Email, my43 login, Office 365, and Legacy Webmail. Below the navigation, there are links for Home, About, Programs & Services, Staff Directory & Class Info, Info for Families, Intranet, and Search. A sidebar on the left lists Programs & Services (Music, Athletics, Cafeteria, Clubs, Counselling, Library, Student Services, Technology), and a sub-menu for Athletics. The main content area features a large image of a basketball player with the word 'ATHLETICS' overlaid. Below the image is a quote: "Physical activity is an important part of a middle school student's life. It improves health, concentration and also reduces stress and promotes physical growth and development." At the bottom of the page, there is a small illustration of two students in a boxing ring.

Not sure when athletic practices or games are?  
Visit our school website to see all things Athletics at  
**COMO ATHLETICS** for Game schedules and practice times.



Current Athletic Programs are:  
Wrestling  
Basketball

# Kindergarten Registration

## WELCOME

Is your child five (5) years old on or before December 31, 2026?

## HOW TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN:

**1** Use our School Locator to confirm your neighbourhood catchment school.

(if you have been accepted to a Program of Choice, please register at the school indicated on your acceptance letter)

**2** Download and Complete our New Student Registration Form found below.

**3** Prepare required verification documents.

**4** Email the school your registration form and required verification documents on the posted registration dates

(School email can be found at the bottom section of the school's website or on the school locator on our website)

**5** Wait for a confirmation email and next steps from the school.



## WINTER WEATHER AHEAD

### School Closures Due to Inclement Weather

All schools in School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if at all possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

Any district-wide or partial-district closures will be decided and communicated by 6:30 a.m. via the SD43 website at [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) and other sources so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

In most instances, announcements will NOT be made that schools are open; only cancellations, closures or delayed school openings will be announced.

While the District tries to make the best decision with the information available, the weather does change quickly. Therefore, when schools remain open, decisions to stay at home during challenging weather conditions should be made by each family.

*Where to look for information during an emergency or inclement weather:*

1. The SD43 HOME PAGE is the official primary source of SD43 information. Always check here first.

- Look for a STATUS BANNER at [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) (example shown below).
- Click its main title to learn more.

2. Information may also be announced on secondary sources: (Caution: this info may not be current)

- @SD43 social media channels, including Facebook and Instagram.
- Local radio and TV news outlets.

3. Other options include:

- Use your mobile phone to access one of the above sources if you have no power.
- Call or text a friend who has access to one of the above sources if you have no internet.
- Use your home phone to call a friend who has access to the above sources.
- Call your school for a status update.

# COMMUNITY NEWS



## JOIN THE TRI-CITY EAGLES FIELD HOCKEY CLUB - REGISTER NOW

### U10 MINI & MITE FIELD HOCKEY

The U-10 Mini & Mites Field Hockey Program is open to girls and boys born between 2016 and 2021 and is a great way to learn, play, and have fun on the field.

The season fee is \$155 — register before **February 1** and save \$20 on your season fee! Registration for the Spring season closes **March 31**.

All games and practices are held at Cunnings Field at Town Centre in Coquitlam.

### U11 - U18 JUNIORS

Girls born 2008-2015 can join U-11 to U-18 teams in the Greater Vancouver Junior Field Hockey League, playing a fun, exciting, and competitive season from late March to June.

Sign up before **February 1** and save \$20 on the \$190 season fee!

### U11 - U14 BOYS

The Junior Boys Program is open to players born 2012 - 2015, while younger boys born 2016 - 2021 can join our Mini & Mite programs.

### REGISTER NOW

[REGISTER NOW AT TCFIELDHOCKEY.COM](http://TCFIELDHOCKEY.COM)

#### Early Bird Pricing:

Save \$20 if you register by February 1, 2026

#### Regular Price:

\$155 for Minis/Mites and \$190 for Juniors

Practices begin immediately following Spring Break

Don't wait — secure  
your spot and join the  
fun this season!



Here we go again with GOTTA SING! GOTTA DANCE! — our 32nd year at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver. (Scholarships available for talented children, who have financial difficulties).

If you are age 9 to 19 and love to sing, dance, act and perform, check out our Musical Theatre Program!

### Musical Theatre Summer Program

For an audition, apply online at [www.jccgv.com](http://www.jccgv.com) or [www.gottasinggottadance.ca](http://www.gottasinggottadance.ca)

Check out our promotional video  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6bS9JII0GOU>

## KIDS SPRING BREAK PROGRAMS

AT MINNEKHADA MIDDLE SCHOOL

**16-27 March**

**ACTIVITIES**

BASKETBALL, KIDS KITCHEN, SCRATCH CODING, STEM BUILDERS, ROOTS TO STREETS

**For Grades 6-8**

Register Here: [coquitlam.ca/SnowAngels](http://coquitlam.ca/SnowAngels)

## Volunteer to be a Snow Angel this Winter

- Volunteers must be 16 years or older, or accompanied by an adult.
- Snow Angels are provided with training, shovels, reflective vests, scarves and toques.
- Once an official volunteer, "when it snows you go!"

Details at [coquitlam.ca/SnowAngels](http://coquitlam.ca/SnowAngels)





## FREE WEEKLY TUTORING

Exciting News! Gleneagle Secondary is offering this year's second round of Talons Tutoring, a **free tutoring service for children grades 4 to 8, taught by students grades 10 to 12**. This program will run afterschool from 4:00 to 5:15 pm, every Tuesday to Friday. Held on Gleneagle's campus, sessions provide a safe, supportive, and engaging environment for your child! If your child is accepted into the program, they will attend tutoring once a week for up to 10 weeks. To sign up and learn more, click on the link to the right and follow @talons\_tutoring\_ on Instagram.

## AVAILABLE SUBJECTS

- English
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Languages (French, Mandarin)

Your child's assigned tutor can help with multiple subjects, but choosing one main subject is recommended.

## DATES

## Round 2 of Tutoring:

Sessions will take place from February 3rd to April 24th, every Tuesday - Friday.

4:00 - 5:15pm

## SIGN UP!

More information is listed here:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/k1Ykuv5Y8d>



Sign up is first come, first serve!  
Form closes on January 28th.

FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT [TALONSTUTORING26@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TALONSTUTORING26@GMAIL.COM)

Focus Volleyball Club announces....

## VOLLEYBALL TRAIN & PLAY AGES 9 TO 13

Register at [www.focusvolleyball.ca](http://www.focusvolleyball.ca)

Sessions are **FUN!**

**Coed** Grouped by age

Six weeks, 1-hour long

Gain skills & confidence

All levels - beginners welcome

Include a **FREE** shirt & mini ball

SPACES  
LIMITED

Every		at	Starting
9s	Friday	5 PM	Jan 30
10s	Friday	6 PM	Jan 30
11s	Tuesday	5 PM	Feb 3
12+	Tuesday	6 PM	Feb 3

at Miller Park and Harbour View





GR 8 to 12

Do you like sports, recreation, events or kids?

Want meaningful volunteer opportunities that train you & help build skills for future employment?

**Join the Moresports BC Youth Leadership Team!!**

<https://bttr.im/57oho> to sign up

**What's in it FOR YOU:**  
Learn new skills  
Get work experience.

Join anytime - each month has different training options. You decide which ones fit into your schedule - but we also have some components on-line for you to complete when you can!

Most Coaching Certificates are FREE to you!



Train to be a Moresports BC Youth Leader and Volunteer to be a "Key Player" to help kids have fun at After School Programs, Summer/Spring Break Camps!



\$268  
K-Gr8  
Lunch and  
Snacks Included

Hillcrest Middle  
Spring Break Camp  
March 16-20



Register at  
[www.DWUL.io](http://www.DWUL.io)  
Search Hillcrest



**Community Bulletin Board for Families**

FamilySmart Connect & Learn Event  
All Ages Poetry Slam  
Imagine This Musical Theatre Workshops

# MYED BC PORTAL CORNER

## Verification Form:

This form contains demographic information that each family has shared with the school upon registration. If any of the information is incorrect, please print the form and write the updated information. Form can then be sent to the office for us to make the necessary changes on our MyEd system.

The Student Verification Form will be found under the "Published Reports" section of the MyEd Family portal.

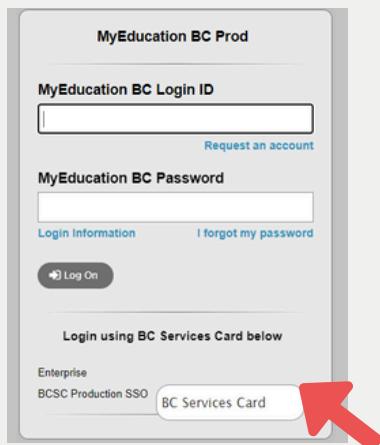
## Login To MYED BC Portal

Access to the portal can be found [HERE](#). It is best practice to go to our school website and click on "MyEdBC Family Portal" under "Quick Links." Avoid using google to search for MyEd BC because it often takes you to a different link and it won't work properly!

Your MyEd BC Login is 43-youremailaddress. Please note that every three months, the system requires you to create a new password. This is for security purposes and we suggest you have your passwords written down somewhere safe to refer to! If you can't remember your password, you can request for a Password Reset when logging in (see below).

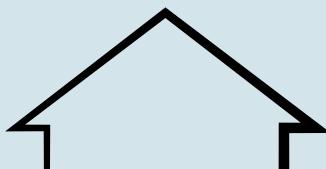


You can reset the password for MyEd Portal by clicking on "I forgot my password"



Como Lake is on Instagram!  
[CLICK HERE](#) 

WHAT  
YOU  
NEED TO KNOW?



## CHANGE IN HOME ADDRESS?

Home address changes must be reported to the office along with 3 of the required support documentation from the following:

- BC Driver's License
- Long Term Tenancy Agreement – showing name & address
- Property Purchase Agreement – showing name & address
- Income Tax Statement – showing name & province of residency
- Property Tax Statement – showing name & address
- Utility Bill
- BC Vehicle Registration
- Canadian Bank Account Statement – showing name & address
- Canadian Credit Card Statement – showing name & address

## SchoolCashOnline



OPT-IN to receive e-mail notifications for new fees/permission forms assigned to your child and updates on school related activities on School Cash Online. To do this, log on to your account, and click on "My Account", then scroll down to "Manage Email Notifications." Check that the box is marked indicating that you want to receive email notifications. You may also select the preferred language for e-mails from School Cash Online here.

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