



## *Happenings – Hillcrest Middle Newsletter*

# JANUARY 2026

Please see our school website: [Hillcrest website](#)

### Upcoming Events:

Jan 14	PAC Lunch – Fuel	Feb 25	PAC Lunch – Sushi
Jan 19	Deadline to order PAC Lunch for Jan 28	Feb 25	Student Led Conferences (early dismissal 1:45)
Jan 26	Pro D Day (school based)	Feb 27	Pro D Day (District)
Jan 26	Babysitting course (registration Jan 8)	Mar 2	Deadline to order PAC Lunch for Mar 11
Jan 28	PAC Lunch – Subway	Mar 10	Eagles – Div 13 & 15 Skating
Feb 2	Deadline to order PAC Lunch for Feb 11	Mar 11	PAC Lunch – Dominos
Feb 10	Owls to Britannia Mine Museum	Mar 12	Hillcrest Science Fair (time TBD)
Feb 11	PAC Lunch – White Spot	Mar 12	Eagles – Div 14 & 16 Skating
Feb 16	BC Family Day stat	Mar 16-27	Spring Break
Feb 16	Deadline to order PAC Lunch for Feb 25	Mar 23	Deadline to order PAC Lunch for Apr 1
Feb 23-27	Scholastic Book Fair	Mar 30	First day back after Spring Break

### Repeating Events:

#### Band/Choir:

Junior Band: Tuesday 7:45am      Senior Band: Thursday 7:45am      Choir: Wednesday 7:45

#### Athletics:

##### Basketball

Grade 6: Wednesday lunch  
Grade 7 Boys: Thursday 2:45-3:45 (Games Tuesday)  
Grade 7 Girls: Monday 2:45-3:45, Friday lunch (Games Tuesday)  
Grade 8 Boys: Monday 7:45, Thursday lunch (Games Wednesday)  
Grade 8 Girls: Monday lunch, Wednesday 7:45 (Games Wednesday)

##### Wrestling

Tuesday/Wednesday 2:50-4:00 (Tuesday changes to Monday for Jan 19, Feb 9) (no practice Feb 25)  
Meets: Jan 22, Feb 5, 19, Mar 5 (Districts)

**Open Gym:** 8:00am Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

**Breakfast Club:** Available daily for ALL students 8:00-8:30am



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### Principal's Message

I hope that your family was able to enjoy a great Winter Break. As we roll into 2026, SD43 and the Ministry of Education have surveys for our grade 7's and 8's to complete. Our grade 7's are tasked to complete the Student Learning Survey (SLS) for the Ministry of Education, while our grade 8's will be completing the Middle Years Development Index (MDI) for the school district. This data is very important as it helps us devise our Action Plan for Learning (APL) that sets the goals for our Intellectual development, Human and Social development and Indigenous Learners and Indigenous Ways of Learning. Grade 8 families were notified before the Winter Break about the MDI. As mentioned, this data is crucial to understand how we can best support our students and so we appreciate in advance your cooperation in ensuring that your child can participate in the SLS or the MDI.

### Safety Notice

On Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> we had a scooter stolen from outside the school. Please remember that if your student is riding a bike/scooter/e-bike to school, they need to lock it to our bike racks out front.

### Babysitting Course Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>

Hillcrest will be offering a babysitting course for interested students where they can build their knowledge about babysitting. This full day babysitting course will take place on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. This is a Pro-D day, so participating students will not miss any schoolwork.

This hands-on course will run from 8:40am – 2:45pm with regular breaks for Nutrition Break and Lunch. At the end you will receive a certificate of completion.

Here are some of the things that students will learn in this course:

- Look after babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children
- Care for yourself and siblings when home alone
- Create a safe environment and deal with phone calls and unexpected visitors
- React confidently in case of an emergency, such as choking, bleeding, poisoning or burns
- Cope with common problems such as tantrums and crying
- Play games and organize activities to keep kids of all ages entertained
- Manage a babysitting business. This includes creating a resume and a business card and asking the right questions before accepting a babysitting job
- Learn how to correctly fit a helmet to a child (participants are asked to bring a helmet to the course if they have one)
- Students need to bring a pencil/pen to the course

We need a minimum of 20 students to sign up and the maximum is 25 students. The first 25 students to sign up will receive a spot in this course. **Registration starts Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am on School Cash Online. It will fill very quickly – usually within the first few minutes.**

Cost for this course is \$39.00

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Gangnes ([pgangnes@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:pgangnes@sd43.bc.ca))

### Yearbooks

Yearbooks are available for purchase on School Cash Online. Limited quantities are available.

We sell out every year and there will not be extras available in June. If you don't see the item in your school cash online, you may have already purchased it. Please check your purchase history before contacting the school. **Only 12 left!**



## Winter Weather Ahead!

Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if at all possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

However, on occasion, a district-wide or partial-district closure is required due to extreme weather. Partial-district closures affecting individual schools may occur due to the very different geography within our school district. If there is a partial-district closure affected schools will be identified.

The decision on schools remaining open or needing to be closed, because of extreme weather, occurs **before 6:30 a.m.** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

**Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 a.m. via the School District 43 website [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.**

Extreme weather can also impact transit. Transit schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents seeking information on transit schedules need to consult the Translink website:  
<http://www.translink.ca/>

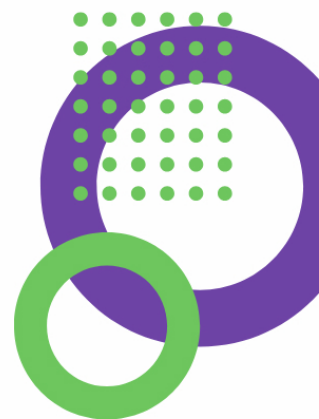
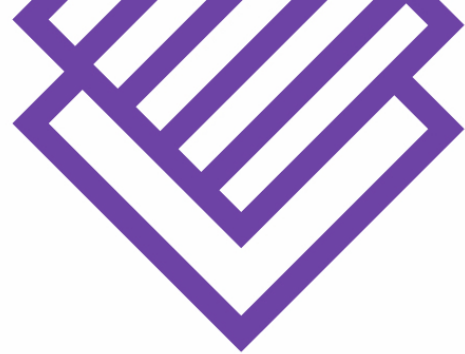
We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)

Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at:  
<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>

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.

# LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER?

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*Moresports*  
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- FREE TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS  
(CPR/FIRST AID, COACHING ALL ABILITIES, CAN TRAINING, EQUITAS HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING, AND OTHERS)
- GET WORK EXPERIENCES INVOLVING KIDS
- LEARN & DEVELOP LIFE-LONG LEADERSHIP SKILLS
- OBTAIN A COACHING JOB

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