

# The Current - Monty Middle Newsletter

Edition #4 Tuesday, December 2nd, 2025

Weekly Schedule of Events- <i>Basketball schedule TBA</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School				
Advanced Concert Band: @ 7:45am	Beginner Concert Band: @ 7:45am	Advanced Concert Band: @ 7:45am	Beginner Concert Band: @ 7:45am	Student government 830am-9:30am
Lunch				
Intramurals GSA Club	Open Gym by grade Drop-In Games Club	Intramurals Drop-In Games Club Library Open	Open Gym by grade Drop- In Chess Club SLC meeting	Intramurals
After School				
Dungeons and Dragons Club	Wrestling 3:10-4pm	Harry Potter Club	Wrestling 3:10-4pm	

December Monthly Calendar				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2 Order deadline for Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> Treat Day (Cookie)	3	4	5 Christmas Market Open to families at 3-3:30pm No student government meeting
8 Candy Grams on sale \$1	9 Candy Grams on sale \$1	10 Adv 11-14 fieldtrips Candy Grams on sale \$1	11 Band Concert 7pm Adv 1-4, 13 and 14 on fieldtrips Candy Grams on sale \$1	12 Treat Day (Cookie) Candy Grams on sale \$1
15	16	17 Report cards go live 3pm	18 Birthday Club 2:40pm	19 Western Dress Hoe Down 1pm Last day of school

## Volunteer Opportunities

Event	Date	Needs	Contact
Breakfast program	One day per week, any day 8:15-9am	45 minutes once per week before school to help our youth worker with our food programs.	Carolyn Cai <a href="mailto:ccai@sd43.bc.ca">ccai@sd43.bc.ca</a>
Basketball Coach for gr 8 girls' team. Games on Wednesdays	1 practice/ week and one game we will accommodate preferred times.	Work with a staff sponsor who will support forms and organize transportation	Shay Gronnemose <a href="mailto:sgronnemose@sd43.bc.ca">sgronnemose@sd43.bc.ca</a>

**For Your Consideration- Every day events can be a life lesson**

### GIVING BACK

In this era of Black Friday and hard-core shopping, students can sometimes lose sight of the deeper spirit of helping others and giving of oneself. Not every family celebrates Christmas, but we can all join together as a community to help those who need our support. At Ecole Montgomery Middle, December is the month that we focus on caring for others in our community.

Monty's tradition of helping others through our Annual Winter Market. In 2024 the market raised nearly \$1500.00 to help create Christmas hampers. Thank you to the many families who have made donations of nearly new items to help us continue our tradition of supporting families. Our student government has done a great job of promoting this event through posters and announcements and presentations at Monty and Continuing Education. A huge thank you to the PAC for sponsoring this event and the many parent volunteers who have made this community event possible. Adult students from Coquitlam Continuing Education also donate their time to help wrap gifts. Hampers will be prepared and delivered before we break for the holiday.

Monty's Student Government students are also taking on the promotion and organization of Candy Grams to raise additional money for support families and to spread some holiday cheer. The school donated a bunch of food to the SHARE Food Bank in November thanks to the Howling for Hunger Campaign that team Cascades took on. In addition, families donated over \$1000!

Lastly Team Les Alpes is sponsoring a Christmas card/ letter campaign to send messages of care to seniors in the local care homes in Coquitlam. All these events are part of our commitment to giving back to our local community and in doing so we strengthen our own school community and our students' connection to the local community and the school.

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We would also like to extend a huge thank you to our PAC group for their tireless efforts to make Monty an exciting place to work and learn. Hot lunches, monthly meetings, fundraising, parent education, the annual Winter Market are just a few of the wonderful ways they contribute to our community. The Winter Market is well under way, but many hands are needed. If you can assist in any small way, please contact Danielle Nicholson, our PAC president.

We also have several parents we wish to thank who assist with weekly shopping, donation pick up at Starbucks and Cobbs bread, as well as a weekly chess club. You make a difference! If you have a small amount of time each week and would like to help, please email Kate Shorthouse at [kshorthouse@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:kshorthouse@sd43.bc.ca).

### **Mrs. Husband Update**

I am continuing to build my time at Monty through what has turned out to be a long recovery process after my serious fall last June and head injury.

Kate Shorthouse is continuing her exceptional work in the role of Principal for the month of December and likely January. I continue to work as extra staff and am assisting the admin team each day. While I have periods and even days when I feel strong and capable, I have many others during which I am very dizzy and unsteady on my feet and overwhelmed by the very normal volume of sound at work. I am very grateful for the support of Work Safe and our amazing school community.

### **Mango Update**








Our PADS dog Mango is also coming to work more often, and students are getting more access to him. To help with access to Mango Mrs. Diep our school counsellor is currently undertaking training with PADS (Pacific Assistance Dog Society) to become a second handler. This means that soon Mango will be able to be with Mrs. Husband or Mrs. Diep while at work. This will improve access to Mango for all students. Mango will continue to live with Mrs. Husband and be her

overall responsibility but once Mrs. Diep passes her practical test Mango can be with her throughout the day. A huge thank you to Allondale Animal Hospital for their generous donation of dog food to support the work that Mango does at Montgomery.

## School News

### ECOLE MONTGOMERY MIDDLE HAS SPIRIT! JOIN US FOR SPIRIT WEEK IN DECEMBER.

Monday Dec 15 Holiday Toppers	Tues, Dec 16 Deck the Halls	Wed, December 17 Christmas Vacation	Thursday, Dec 18 Silent Night	Friday, December 19 A Rhinestone Rodeo
<p>Get your Santa hats, toques, reindeer antlers... anything to put on your heads.</p> 	<p>Wear anything and everything that is associated with Christmas all at once. Wear red, green, white, hats, your Christmas sweaters, bows, ribbon, garland...</p> 	<p>Pretend you are on a tropical vacation. Wear your sunglasses, tropical shirts and shorts.</p> 	<p>Wear your Christmas pajamas, onesie or any pajamas you like. The cozier the better.</p> 	<p>Put on your plaid, your jeans, your cowboy boots and hats and stride down the Monty hallways. Make sure to add some sparkle!</p> <p>There will be prizes for the best dressed!</p> 

#### Volleyball Finale

The volleyball season has ended for all grade 6, 7 and 8 players. Congratulations to all the players who came out to try a sport, make connections and improve their volleyball skills. Thank you to the many coaches who made the season possible through the gift of their time. Ms. Martini, Mme. Riccardi, Ms. Best, Ms. Beauregard, M. Baldonado, Ms. Sievers, Ms. Gurney, Mr. Sitter, Mr. Welch, M. Hashmi and Ms. Tuan. Merci to the many parent drivers who made away games possible. Congrats to the Grade 8 Girls who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the district and to the Grade 8 Boys B Team who placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the district! Way to go!

**\*\*Volleyball players, please wash and return your uniforms to your coach or Ms. Gronnemose. Thank you!\*\***

#### Basketball

Grade 6s	Mr. Turner
Grade 7 Girls	Ms. Sievers
Grade 7 Boys	Mr. Tubajon
Grade 8 Girls	TBD – Need a coach
Grade 8 Boys	Mr. Rosier- parent volunteer welcome

Basketball will start in January 2025. Sign up will be available on the Sports Board from Dec 1<sup>st</sup>-Dec 5<sup>th</sup>.





#### Wrestling- Mrs. Perry

Monty's wrestling team will run from Dec 1<sup>st</sup> – March 5<sup>th</sup>. Students who are interested in joining can do so by signing up at the Sports Board and attending the meeting on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> in the mat room. Please take a permission form from the sports board and return it to Mrs. Perry. Practices are every Tuesday and Thursday, and no experience is needed, and all sizes are welcome. Students compete against people that are in their weight category and either on the girls or boys' team.

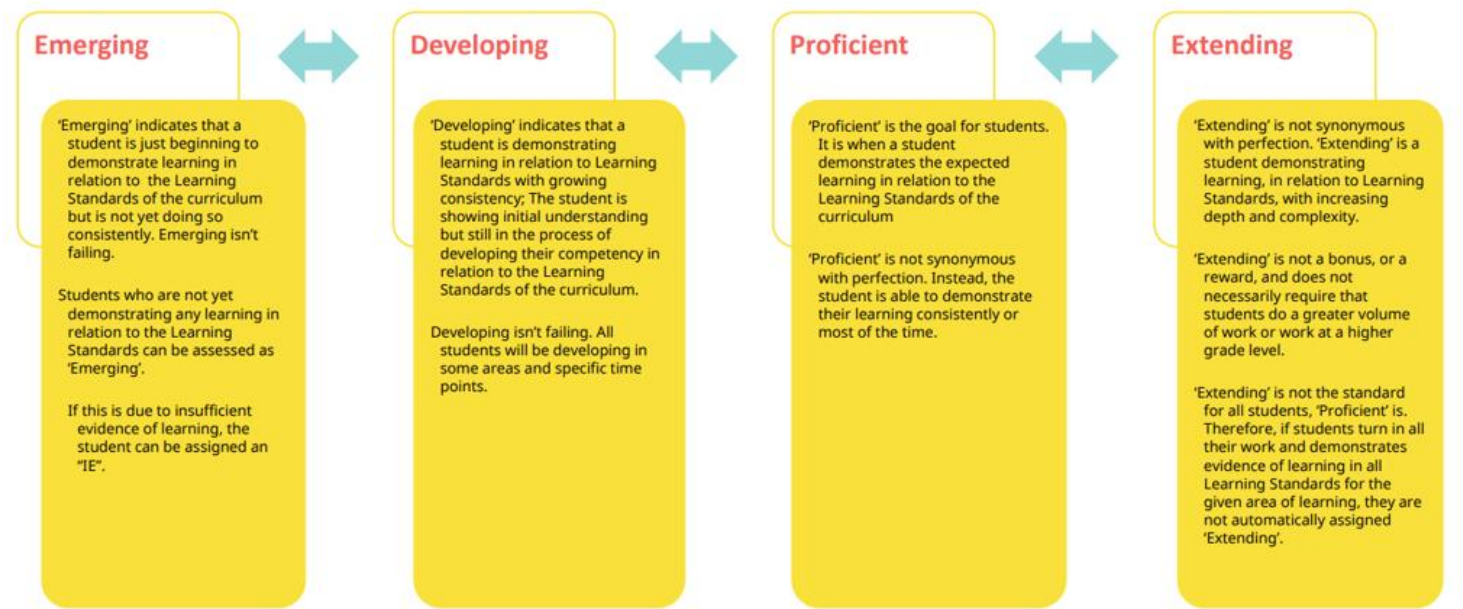
## The Provincial Proficiency Scale



If your child is in Grades K-9, you won't see letter grades on their report card. Instead, you will see information on where your child is on the Provincial Proficiency Scale. The scale uses the terms "Emerging," "Developing," "Proficient," and "Extending" to describe student learning. The scale maintains high standards for student learning.

 <b>EMERGING</b>	 <b>DEVELOPING</b>	 <b>PROFICIENT</b>	 <b>EXTENDING</b>
<b>Bum on seat. One foot on ground or rides with training wheels. Frequent stops.</b>	<b>Rides on two wheels. Mostly balanced, often with 2 feet on the pedals. Straight, steady line forward.</b>	<b>Moves forward on a surface with ease. No stopping, completely balanced. Smooth and consistent pedaling. Can make turns with ease.</b>	<b>Rides on a variety of surfaces. Transitions smoothly around obstacles. Takes risks, tries executing tricks. Increased speed and agility.</b>

## What about the scale?



[Click here](#) for a link to the Ministry of Education and Childcare website for parents with detailed information in 6 languages about the change in reporting.



## PAC News and Events

Wow, it is already December. Early wishes for a restful and happy holiday season from all of your PAC.

For 2025-26, PAC meetings will be on Wednesday nights at 7pm in the Monty Middle Library. There is no meeting in December.

The purpose of the PAC is to promote the education and welfare of students in the school, be the collective voice of parents, encourage parent involvement in the school, and to advise and assist the administration and staff in matters pertaining to the school and students. We encourage all parents and caregivers to be engaged with their child(ren)'s school and joining PAC meetings is one way to get connected. All parents and caregivers are automatically PAC members.

This year, we will continue to raise funds to support our students and school. In addition to helping with planned team trips to Grouse Mountain, the PAC will support the purchase of technology for the STEAM program and sporting equipment for every class to use at break times, contribute to the Grade 8 leaving ceremonies, provide entertainment to students, and give each classroom a small discretionary fund to buy supplies needed for the year.

### Looking Ahead

Cookies from Europe Bakery - Friday December 12, order by Tuesday December 2

Christmas Market - Friday December 5, see below

Multicultural Lunch - Friday February 20, more info to follow

Staff Appreciation Day - late May, date TBD

**It is almost time for this year's Christmas Market.** *We are still in need of donations* and will be accepting them until the end of Wednesday, December 3. We will also happily accept any wrapping paper or gift bags!

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer, but if you are able, we're still accepting sign-ups for Thursday and Friday of this week. Part or full day help is okay, we're just happy to have you! If you are interested in helping with the Christmas market, please fill out this form (no need to sign up again if you already have):

<https://forms.gle/1s2Edyov7UGMaFTs5>

### 2025-2026 Executive

*President – Danielle Nicholson*

*Secretary – Jen Bradley*

*Co-Treasurer – Kristine Kirk*

*Co-Treasurer – Lily Gu*

*DPAC representative – Chris Hilliker*

*Members at Large – Valorie Salimpoor, Devon Steeves (Hot Lunch Coordinator), Kathy Lee, Zeyad Saleem, Brendan Reid, Hannah Chow*

### Meeting Dates for 2025-2026 (there are no meetings in December, March and June)

*Wednesday Jan 21 7pm*

*Wednesday Feb 18 7pm*

*Wednesday Apr 22 7pm*

*Wednesday May 20 7pm – AGM*

## Support the Montgomery PAC with Return-It Express

Did you know that there's a faster, easier way to recycle your refundable beverage containers – without sorting or waiting in line?

[Return-It Express](#) lets you drop off your containers in minutes. Here's how:

- 1) If you don't already have a free Return-It Express account, scan the box with your phone or click the link get the app and sign-up.
- 2) Bag your unsorted empty beverage containers in see through bags. (Up to 90-litres)
- 3) Bring up to 6 bags at a time to any Return-It Express depot. All the local depots offer Express, I checked!
- 4) Walk in with your bags. At the kiosk, type in your phone #, peel and stick the printed labels to your bags
- 5) Drop the bags in the Express bin and walk away.

You get the full refund value, just like manual sorting, and less...sticky hands.



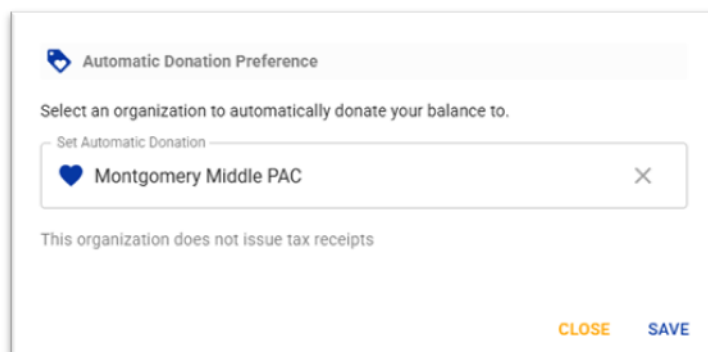
Get the app & sign up at  
<https://app.return-it.ca/register>

## So...how do I support the Montgomery PAC?

You can donate your refund to help fund school equipment, programs, and field trips from within your Return-It Express account.

### Option 1)

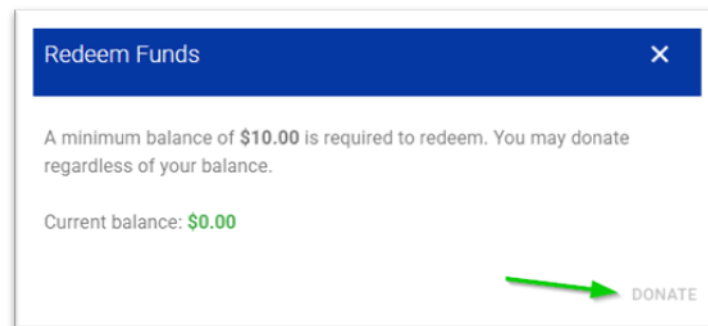
In your Return-It Express account use “**Set Automatic Donation**” to send all future refunds directly to the **Montgomery Middle PAC**.



### Option 2)

Prefer to decide each time? That's ok! You can choose to donate your refund when you redeem it.

Thank you for your support.  
Brendan Reid  
Montgomery PAC  
Member-at-large



## PROGRAMS OF CHOICE & CROSS BOUNDRY INFORMATION

### ADDRESS VERIFICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO GR 8s

### REGISTERING FOR PROGRAMS OF CHOICE

#### Early and Late French Immersion for September 2026

Apply [on the main page of SD43 website](#), between January 8, 2026 at 9:00am to January 14, 2026 at 4:00pm.

- Children with siblings in a Program of Choice must still apply online.
- Siblings will be given priority if the older sibling is in the program of choice in September 2025.
- Applications will be processed on a **RANDOM DRAW BASIS**.

#### Early and Late Montessori for September 2026

Apply [on the main page of our website](#) between January 8, 2026 at 9:00am to January 14, 2026 at 4:00pm.

Students currently in Grade 5 Montessori and interested in continuing must still apply online and will be given priority over new applications.

- Children with siblings in a Program of Choice must still apply online.
- Applications will be processed on a **RANDOM DRAW BASIS**.

### CROSS CATCHMENT PROCESS

Parents sometimes wish for their children to attend a school that is not their catchment school. In such cases, a Cross Catchment Application is required after registering at their catchment school. School District 43 uses a random draw process for Cross Catchment Applications (using in-district priority, then out-of-district).

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

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

The [School Locator](#) tool on the district web site provides a student's designated catchment area schools. **Catchment is based on permanent home address that is currently on record with the school.**

There are two separate applications:

- 1) Kindergarten Cross Catchment- Kindergarten students must first register with their catchment school.
- 2) Grades 1-12 Cross Catchment (including a section to confirm sibling status)

### To apply for Cross Catchment:

Apply [on the main page of the SD43 website](#), starting **Friday, Feb 6, 2026 at 9 a.m. to Wednesday, Feb 11, 2026 at 4 p.m.**

- Applications will be processed based on the availability of space in schools and on a **RANDOM DRAW PROCESS**. (using in-district priority then out-of-district)
- The application requires student or Personal Education Number (PEN) number (can be obtained from your child's school), child's birth date, home address, name of current or assigned school, and the name of the requested school(s). Kindergarten requests do not need to provide the student number/ PEN number.
- Families will be notified by district email of the outcome in the second week of March.



# PROGRAMS OF CHOICE OPTIONS FOR GRADE 9

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## Welcome to Inquiry Hub Secondary's Annual Open House

**Held on Thursday December 4th, 2025.**

This year we are running two sessions, choose either 6pm or 7:30pm

[CLICK HERE TO RESERVE TICKETS ON EVENTBRITE.](#)

You are coming to the end of your Middle School years and it's time to think about high school. Are you going to your local neighbourhood school or are you choosing a school that meets your interests and needs? Are you a self-directed learner who likes to get things done on-time?

**Inquiry Hub Secondary School** is an innovative secondary school, in SD43, where students pursue their own personal interests and dreams. Students have scheduled standard classes with a focus on collaborative project-based learning, and some time that is left unscheduled. This unscheduled time is for individual passion projects, group work, and getting school work done.

[Join us](#) for our Open House and learn more about Inquiry Hub... The **Dream Create Learn** school.

Then click the '[Apply](#)' tab to get your application rolling.

## Come to iHub Open 2025

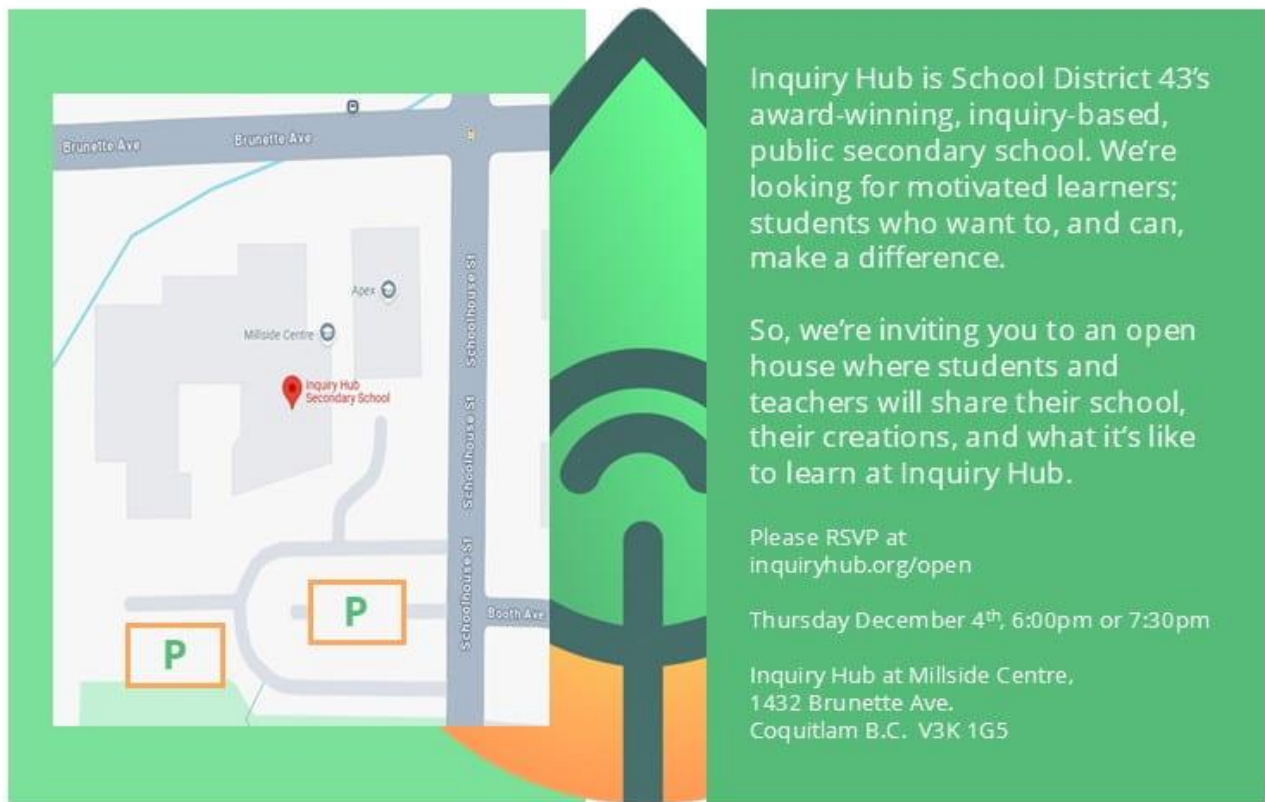
Inquiry Hub Secondary  
1432 Brunette Ave, Coquitlam  
(Parking access via Schoolhouse St.)

Thursday December 4<sup>th</sup>  
Choose 6-7pm or 7:30-8:30pm

**[Inquiryhub.org/open](https://inquiryhub.org/open)**



We're the  
**Dream – Create – Learn**  
School.



[Click here for Tickets.](#)

# International Baccalaureate Port Moody SS

We are hosting our information nights at PMSS on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 pm. Applications are due December 19<sup>th</sup> by 4pm and will be available on our website by December 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
The intake assessment will be held on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 from 8:30-1:00 at PMSS.

**School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)**  
***INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM***  
INFORMATION MEETING FOR GRADE 8 STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS  
**Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> or Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**7:00 p.m. at Port Moody Secondary School**

Students and parents interested in entering the IB Program for talented and highly motivated students should attend one of these meetings to receive all pertinent information. There will be an opportunity for students and parents to ask questions about the IB Program. **All registration information will be available at these meetings.** Information about Port Moody Secondary and the IB Program can be found on the web at [https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/portmoody/ProgramsServices/IB/reg\\_info/Pages/default.aspx#/=](https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/portmoody/ProgramsServices/IB/reg_info/Pages/default.aspx#/=) and at [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org).

## Grade 10 COAST Program at Gleneagle

COAST is a life-changing, outdoor education experience for Grade 10 students in semester two. The program integrates academics, leadership, and outdoor trips with an emphasis on character development, where students develop skills in resilience, perseverance, collaboration, self-confidence, and humility. As a result, COAST students gain appreciation and respect for nature. Upon leaving the program, students can expect to have learned the value of making informed and responsible decisions, initiating action, and taking personal responsibility for who they become.

Students can apply for this program if they attend Gleneagle Secondary in their grade 9 year.

If a student is currently in grade 8 and does not reside in Gleneagle Secondary's catchment, they may apply for cross catchment to attend Gleneagle Secondary in their grade 9 year. Please follow the instructions here: [Click Here or information on Cross Catchment](#)

Please visit Gleneagle Secondary Schools website at <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/School/gleneagle> or the Gleneagles COAST website: <https://gleneaglecoast.com/index.php> for more info.



# 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

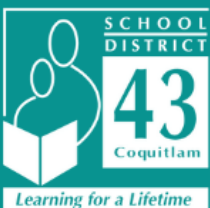
Kindergarten Programs of Choice Presentation:  
French Immersion, Mandarin Bilingual and Montessori

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](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/programs)

## DISTRICT NEWS

### Winter Weather and School Closures

Schools are not usually closed because of snow or other weather conditions. All schools in the Coquitlam School District will remain open, if possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

Our schools are in very different climate zones from one another and there may be the need for **some** schools to be closed within SD43 while others remain open. If there is a partial closure of schools within the school district, these individual schools will be named. Full or partial school closures do not happen often.



Extreme weather can also change the transit bussing. Bus schedules may have changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents looking for information on public bus schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/>

Coquitlam School District school closures will be decided by 6:30 a.m. or earlier and will be announced on:

1. School District 43 website [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) and school website
2. Radio
  - CKNW 980am radio
  - CKWX 1130am radio
  - CBC 690am radio

**Please do not call the school.**



**THE MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (MDI) IS COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL IN JANUARY/MID-MARCH!**

SD43 - Coquitlam has once again partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia to measure and promote children's social and emotional development, health, well-being, and assets through the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI). The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in middle childhood about their thoughts, feelings and experiences. The MDI is the first survey of its kind to gather information about the lives of children both in school, in the home and in the community, from their own perspective. The survey questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum, which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies.

**Grades 4 & 8 students** are invited to complete the MDI during class time between:  
**January 13<sup>th</sup> and March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**

For more information and to view the questionnaires:

<https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/mdi/mdi-overview/>

Parent FAQs:

<https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/mdi/parent-caregiver-info/>

If you don't want your child to participate, please contact your child's teacher, fill out the withdrawal form at the end of the parent/guardian informed passive consent letter, or contact the MDI project staff at [mdi@help.ubc.ca](mailto:mdi@help.ubc.ca).



***inlet***  
SKATING CLUB

# ★ ICE SHOW ★

*Holiday*  
**MOVIE NIGHT**



SATURDAY  
**6 DECEMBER, 2025**

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

**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 15TH**

[WWW.INLETSKATINGCLUB.COM](http://WWW.INLETSKATINGCLUB.COM)

