

The Current - Monty Middle Newsletter

Edition #5 Monday, January 5th, 2026

Weekly Schedule of Events				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School				
Advanced Concert Band: @ 7:45am	Beginner Concert Band: @ 7:45am	Advanced Concert Band: @ 7:45am Gr 8 Girls Basketball Practice 7:45am-8:30am	Beginner Concert Band: @ 7:45am	Student government 8:30am-9:30am
Lunch				
Intramurals GSA Club	Open Gym by grade Drop-In Games Club Gr 6 Co-Ed Basketball (Group A)	Intramurals Drop-In Games Club	Open Gym by grade Drop-In Chess Club SLC Meeting Gr 6 Co-Ed Basketball (Group B)	Intramurals
After School				
Gr 8 Boys Basketball Practice 3pm-4:15pm	Wrestling Practice 3:10pm-4pm Gr 7 Boys/Girls Basketball Games (Gr. 7 Boys & Girls Practice until Jan 20) 3:10pm-4:15pm	Harry Potter Club Gr 8 Boys/Girls Basketball Games (Gr 8 Boys Practice until Jan 21) 3:10pm-4:15pm	Wrestling Practice 3:10pm-4pm Gr 7 Boys Basketball Practice 3pm-4pm Gr 8 Girls Basketball Practice 4pm-5pm	Gr 7 Girls Basketball Practice 3:10pm-4:30pm

January Monthly Calendar				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 School Reopens	6	7	8 LFI and Montessori Applications Open at 9am (doesn't apply to current students)	9 Student Gov meeting 8:30am
12	13 Centennial & Charles Best Gr 8 Info Session 9am	14 LFI and Montessori Applications Close at 4pm (doesn't apply to current students)	15 Ski & Snowboard Club 3pm-8:30pm	16 Student Gov meeting 8:30am
19	20 Deadline to order for Jan 30 th Hot Lunch	21 PAC Meeting 7pm Centennial & Charles Best Gr 8 Parent Info Night 6pm-7:30pm	22 Ski & Snowboard Club 3pm-8:30pm	23 Grade 8 High School Tours (all high schools)
26 School Based Pro-D Day	27	28	29 Ski & Snowboard Club 3pm-8:30pm Centennial & Charles Best Course Selection Input 9am	30 Birthday Club 2:40pm Hot Lunch (TBD)

Volunteer Opportunities

Event	Date	Needs	Contact
Chess Club	Once per week at lunch on Mon, Tues or Thursday.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteer once weekly no chess knowledge is needed. Hand out chess sets and collect them. 	Sarah Husband shusband@sd43.bc.ca

For Your Consideration- Reflecting on who we are.

Montgomery has a long history of restorative practises (RP), it is one of the core beliefs that drives how we interact with each other. An important step in righting a wrong involves students meeting together with an adult facilitator and owning their mistake and setting it right. Restorative Practice does not mean that consequences are not part of the learning process.

An often less known and understood component of restorative practice is student agency. It is the belief or value that students should have an authentic voice in shaping their school community and be able to impact change. The class charters, which all classes completed in the fall, was one example of student voice. Charters represent students' collective commitment to themselves and each other by describing how they want their classroom/ school to function.

Our four indigenous leadership students and district student advisory council with 18 Monty members represent our school interests at the district level and work with our school-based student government to support the district initiatives that both district leadership groups undertake.

Each advisory class is also represented by one or two of their classmates on the Montgomery Student Government, which is sponsored by me, Mrs. Husband, and Mrs. Hamnet. Student government meets weekly to develop their leadership skills, support and create student events and gather student input to make improvements at Monty. So far this year, Student Government, promoted and helped to organize the Winter Market and raised money for Share Food bank through the selling of Candy Cane Grams and will be supporting the upcoming Multicultural Lunch.

Last school year we began a school revisioning process with the help of Katrina Thorsen, an experienced facilitator and artist. Katrina met with students and staff separately to collect their input about the strengths and needs of our school and to explore a new mission statement, school mascot (Mariners) and our school logo (a hammer head shark). The name Montgomery Mariners was created during the change from a Jr. Secondary to Middle level in the late 1990's. Prior to that we were the Monty Trojans.

The new mission statement as well as the new team names (Team Rockies, Les Alpes, Team Cascades and Team Atlas) are the result of this work. The large canvas banners in the gym and main hallway are a visual summary of this collective work. We are currently in the process of creating a new school logo and mascot. Prior to the break students were invited to share their ideas in any format and we had 15 entries. We look forward to sharing the outcome of this work with you in the Spring.

School News

Basketball

Grade 6s	Mr. Turner
Grade 7 Girls	Mrs. Sievers
Grade 7 Boys	Mr. Tubajon
Grade 8 Girls	Ms. Gronnemose & Ms. St. Arnaud
Grade 8 Boys	Mr. Rossier & A volunteer

Wrestling

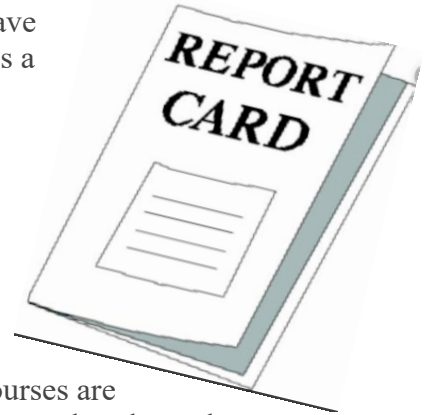
Monty's wrestling team began practice before the winter break. Please take a permission form from the sports board and return it to Mrs. Perry. Practices are every Tuesday and Thursday after school from 3:10pm-4pm.

Report Cards -Now Available

On December 18th report cards and updated IEPs became available online. If you have not done so, please take time with your child to read through the report card. There is a lot of writing in each report. The areas that are specific to your child are,

1. Student perspective
2. Teacher comments
3. Collaborative Goals and Next Steps

Teachers complete reports cards in MyEd which is the provincial student information system. Using this system ensures that student data is securely stored and creates a record in a system that is used by most districts throughout B.C. All courses are embedded into the report card and are assessed using a proficiency scale and comment rather than a letter grade. Effective September 2023 all reporting for K-9 in B.C. uses a proficiency scale.



Multicultural Lunch

We are planning our Annual **Multicultural Lunch** on **Friday, February 20th, 2026**. This event has been a highlight for many students.

For the Multicultural lunch students bring food to share from their heritage or families donate money (\$12 is recommended) and we purchase food from many cultures (Italian, Indian, Chinese and Japanese). Parent volunteers organize and serve the food at one of 4 food stations. Students will eat in the gym so that we can eat as an entire school community. Please help us make this meal a community builder.

To reduce our environmental impact, all students need to bring:

- Reusable utensils, plate or bowl and cup
- A bag to carry the clean and dirty dishes to and from home

We will need nearly 40 parent volunteers to make this event possible. A form will be sent out next week with more detailed information. This is a very fun event and is a great opportunity to connect as a community and celebrate multiculturalism at Montgomery.

After schools programs starting soon.



Montgomery: Afterschool Programs (Winter 2026)

Go to www.DWUL.io or click below, search "SD43 Montgomery" or "Montgomery" or click below.

[Montgomery Middle \(Tue\)-DRAMA](#)

[Montgomery\(Wed\): Intro to Python Programming](#)

[Montgomery \(Fri\) Cooking Gr6-8](#)

How to register: See the [Support Document](#), [60-second Video](#), or [Online Guide](#).

Programs are brought to you by different community organizations.

DWUL (Do What U Luv) provides registration support.

Note: If the links are not opening due to browser/firewall issues, go to www.DWUL.io first.

Then, search "SD43 Montgomery" or "Montgomery" for direct access.

PAC News and Events

Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful winter break. Here's a look ahead for the next few months.

For 2025-26, PAC meetings will be on Wednesday nights at 7pm in the Monty Middle Library. Our next meeting is January 21.

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.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated time and/or items to our Winter Market. It was a huge success, raising approximately \$1300 for Share Society. The children and volunteers all had a great time. And extra big thank you to **Christopher Hilliker** for organizing all of the preparation and sorting that happened before the Market, this event would not have happened without his efforts!

February 20 sees the return of Multicultural Day, including the very popular Multicultural Lunch. The PAC works with Monty staff to make this day a success, and we will be looking for at least 40 volunteers to help with serving food that day. Volunteering sign-ups will be handled by the staff at Monty and will be part of a form sent home with your children in a few weeks.

Looking Ahead

Hot Lunch Dates – Jan 30th, Feb 13th (Items are TBD)

Multicultural Day - Friday February 20, more info to follow

Staff Appreciation Day - late May, date TBD

Please read this important information regarding all hot lunch/treat day orders:

- 1. We look forward to providing lunch and treat opportunities to students.*
- 2. All orders need to be made and paid for online (sorry, no cash orders).*
- 3. Late orders cannot be accepted; this allows us to have invoices from vendors and have vendor payments ready on hot lunch/treat day.*
- 4. Sorry no refunds can be given for student absences.*
- 5. You are able to order multiple lunches and treat days at a time, as well as pay for all your children's orders in one transaction. By ordering and paying at the same time, it reduces the fees associated with credit cards for PAC.*
- 6. If your child is away or on a field trip, their order will be saved until the end of the day, so someone may pick it up. We are unable to save food beyond that due to Food Safe Regulations.*

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.



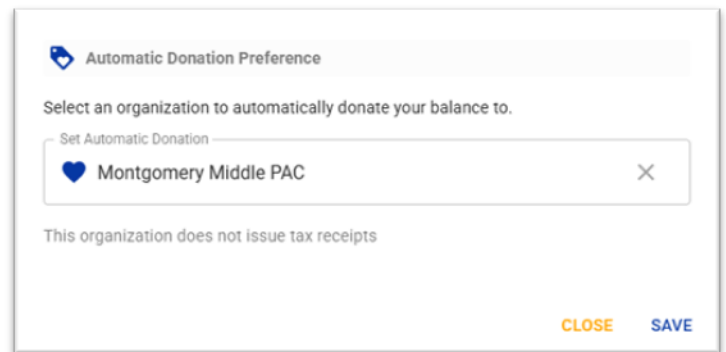
Get the app & sign up at
<https://app.return-it.ca/register>

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)

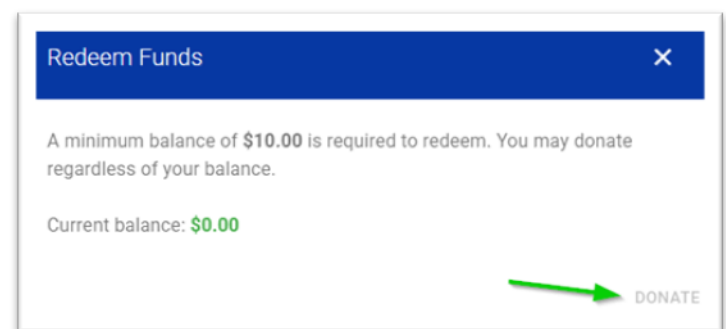
Prefer to decide each time? That's ok! You can choose to donate your refund when you redeem it.

Thank you for your support.

Brendan Reid

Montgomery PAC

Member-at-large



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 and school website
2. Radio

CKNW	980am radio
CKWX	1130am radio
CBC	690am radio

Please do not call the school.

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 2026.
- 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

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

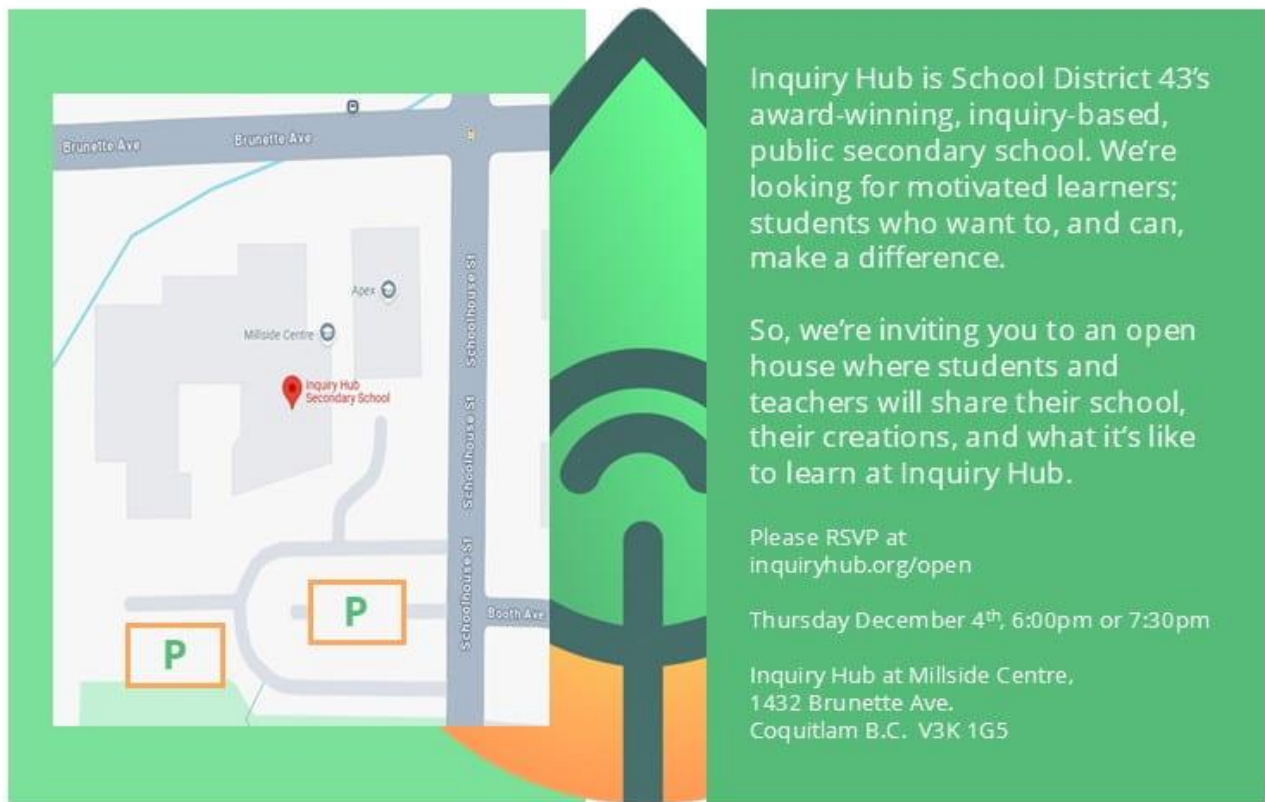
Inquiry Hub Secondary
1432 Brunette Ave, Coquitlam
(Parking access via Schoolhouse St.)

Thursday December 4th
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 2nd and 3rd, at 7:00 pm. Applications are due December 19th by 4pm and will be available on our website by December 3rd.
The intake assessment will be held on January 17th, 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 3rd or Wednesday, December 4th, 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.

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.



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 13th and March 13th, 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.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Jan 20th

- **Hockey Academy @ 7pm**
ZOOM Meeting ID: 884 5412 9110
Passcode: 504797

Jan 21st

- **Football Program @5:30pm**
- **Grade 8 Parent Info @6pm**
- **Optimizing Athletic Performance @8pm**

Jan 23rd

- **Grade 8 Tour @12pm**

Jan 28th

- **Grade 9-11 Parent Info @6pm**

Feb 12th

- **Environmental Sc Academies @ 6pm**

Location: Centennial Theatre for all sessions (other than Hockey Academy)



RPM HOCKEY COMPANY LTD. EST. 1980
CENTENNIAL HOCKEY ACADEMY
SEPTEMBER 2026 - JANUARY 2027

Offered in partnership with RPM Hockey Company,
Centennial Secondary & School District 43



New Parent - Zoom Meeting

January 20 2026 at 7:00 pm
Meeting ID: 884 5412 9110
Passcode: 504797

CHARACTER • INTEGRITY • TRADITION

ABOUT THE ACADEMY



RPM & Centennial Secondary have developed a Ministry Approved program that provides students with the opportunity to obtain academic credit and pursue their sport of choice.

Academy is (coed, inclusive & available for all skill levels)
Available for players Grades 9-12

RPM has been the popular choice of Parents, Players & Minor Hockey for over 45 years and Public Education for 22 years!
That says a lot about the work we do day in and day out, season after season and year after year!



2026 HOCKEY ACADEMY INCLUDES:

- Academy Format - Semester - Sept. 2026 to Jan. 2027
- Inside the school timetable
- Students can play minor hockey & school sports
- Professional Instruction
- On Ice Development
- Sport Specific Training
- Tactical/Game Play
- Performance Testing
- Guest Speakers & Workshops
- Complimentary Soft Goods
- Special Events
- Volunteer Experience
- Personal Growth & Leadership

ACADEMY COST \$1,565

Once you have registered online at www.rpmhockey.com you must also notify the school that you would like to join their hockey academy.

Contact:

Centennial Secondary Hockey Academy	Keith Peterson	kpeterson@sd43.bc.ca
Academy Administration	Craig Millin	craig@rpmhockey.com
Academy Administration	Holly Rogers	holly@rpmhockey.com
Academy Administration	Sam Porta	sam@rpmhockey.com



My son he has become an outstanding student as a result of mixing school with the sport he loves.

Putting my son in the Hockey Academy was the best thing I ever did for his hockey development and you can quote me. Parent - Midget Zone Player

My son went from Bantam C to Bantam AAA and he not only brings home great marks, he looks forward to going to school every day.

Building great kids in the classroom, on ice and in their community!