

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024—2025 JANUARY

- 15 Black Excellence Day
- 16 Parent Programming Info
School Tour—5:30 pm
Gr. 8—6:00 pm
Gr. 9—11 (current) 7:00 pm
- 24 End of Semester 1
- 27 Pro D Day (students do not
attend)
Semester 2 begins
- 28 PAC Meeting 7:00 pm
- 29 Semester 1 reports on
Portal after 4:00 pm
- 29— Westside Story—Musical
31 Theatre Production

FEBRUARY

- 4 Club Day
- 5—7 Westside Story—Musical
Theatre Production
- 12 Gr. 9 Immunizations
- 17 Family Day
- 19 Gr. 10 Day
- 20 Gr. 9 Immunizations
- 26 Pink Shirt Day
- 28 Pro D Day

MARCH



- 2 Daylight Savings Time
begins
- 3 Spring Concert 6:30—
8:30 pm
- 5 Interim Reports on Portal
after 4:00 pm
- 6 Spring Concert Jazz & Java
6:30—8:30 pm
- 6 Gr. 9 Immunizations
- 15— Spring Break
30
- 31 Schools Reopen

Admin Team

Principal:

Janine Close

jclose@sd43.bc.ca

Vice Principals:

Michelle Ciolfitto (A—J)

mciofitto@sd43.bc.ca

Marina Mehai (K—P)

mmehai@sd43.bc.ca

Mark Rao (Q—Z)

mr Rao@sd43.bc.ca

PINETREE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Accepting Challenges Together

3000 Pinewood Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3B 7Y7 PH: 604-464-2513 Fax: 604-937-8056

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/pinetree>

JANUARY 13, 2025

MISSION STATEMENT: *Working with our community, we are dedicated to preparing our students for success in a rapidly changing world by providing a supportive learning environment, which recognizes and respects individual difference, encourages students to challenge personal limits, and promotes excellence.*

Principal's Message

Dear Pinetree Families:

I hope the winter break was a positive one and afforded you quality time with family; rest and relaxation; and some festive adventures, whether that meant hitting the slopes or taking a leisurely stroll around LaFarge Lake to admire the cheerful light displays. In any event, I hope students have returned to Pinetree with renewed energy that will help them confidently finish the last two weeks of regular classes and participate in a range of activities, including graduation assessments, during the week of January 20th to 24th. Please refer to the schedule included with this newsletter, to stay on top of when important exams, events, and extended blocks are scheduled.

Grade 9's will continue to explore their Digital Literacy curriculum and participate in course information and selection for their grade 10 school year. Grade 10's and 12's have at least one provincial assessment to complete, and grade 11's will participate in an interactive experience to both refine their interviewing skills and explore the benefits of an AI tool. In addition, teachers will have periods of time available for students to come in and make up work should they not quite be meeting the curricular outcomes in their courses.

The second semester is quickly approaching and will be an opportunity for students to "start fresh" with a host of new classes. Course change requests were addressed in early December and students' timetables are set. Students can log on to the MyEd student portal to access their schedule at any time (please see your vice principal if logging on continues to be a challenge).

While semester two courses will soon be students' primary focus, right now, counsellors and administrators are working on planning for September 2025. This involves course planning with all our returning students. Grade 9 students will have their course selection presentation next week on Monday, January 20th, the grade 10's are doing their course selections during ESS on February 5th, and the grade 11's are doing their selections on February 12th during ESS. I would like to remind all parents/guardians and students that this course selection process is very important, as we use the student selections to plan the variety and number of classes that are offered at Pinetree for the upcoming school year. Families need to make mindful, informed decisions around students' course selections, as there is very little ability for the school to make changes in September.

In other news, we welcome back **Sahwa Mohamed Ali**, who is returning from maternity leave; **Brad Deans**, who is extending his stay and had taken a social studies/PE role; **Keith Brock**, who will be working part time in the science department; and **Shiraz Manor**, who is returning to teach English. **Agata Zgorzelska** is returning to a library assistant role to cover Claire Ng's maternity leave; **Riya Khaira** joins us, who is covering Amanda Walraven's youth worker role while she is completing a practicum; and **Cheri Xu** has joined us in the role of LISW.

The boys' and girls' basketball teams, ski and snowboarding race team, cheer and dance team, and

Principal's Message continued....

wrestling team seasons having commenced and the winter sports teams are all well under way. A big thank you to all the coaches and sponsors who volunteer so much of their time to make these opportunities available to students!

Finally, once again, we would like to remind parents to respect the parking signs and directions in and around Pinetree Secondary School. Parents/guardians should NOT be entering the staff parking lot at the north side of the school to drop off students. This is a drop-off lane at the west side of the school that should be used. In addition, please avoid dropping off or picking up students in the community centre parking lot to the south of the building. The best strategy is for parents/guardians to drop off their adolescents in the town center parking lot close to the pedestrian walkway. The walkway provides a direct route into the school and enables everyone (students and drivers alike) to be safe.

Students' learning update (summary of learning/report card) for semester one will be available on the MyEd student and parent portals on Wednesday, January 29th, after 4 p.m.

Sincerely,

Ms. Janine Close
Principal

FORMS

Student Verification Forms— It is crucial that the information in our system is correct. Parents/Guardians, if you haven't already done so, you are asked to view the forms through the Parent Portal. If changes are required, parents/guardians are asked to print the form, indicate the changes required, sign and return it, along with copies of the required documentation mentioned in the notification, to the office ASAP. If you are unable to print the form, advise the office and we will print it for you.

Emergency Release Forms—These forms were sent home at the beginning of the school year with students. Forms are now past due.

Medical Alert Forms—If your child has a medical alert, please complete the appropriate Medical Alert Forms found accessible on our school website or [here](#).

GRAD FEES

Grad fees this year are \$65.00. This fee helps pay for the Orpheum Theater (venue where commencement is held), cap and gown (which students get to keep) and other expenses related to graduation. This item will be available on School Cash On-Line in the coming weeks. As always, if your family is experiencing financial hardship and is unable to pay fees, please reach out to your adolescent's vice principal.



Activity Fees and forms due! Visit School Cash Online to submit.

Emergency release forms are past due—please hand into the office.

ALTERED SCHEDULESJanuary 15th—17thJanuary 20th—24th

WEDNESDAY January 15 th		THURSDAY January 16 th		FRIDAY January 17 th	
Block 2	9:10-9:45	Block 2 Double Block	9:10-11:50	Block 3 Double Block	9:10-11:50
Block 3	9:50-10:25				
Block 4	10:30-11:05				
Block 5	11:10-11:50				
LUNCH	11:50-12:30	LUNCH	11:50-12:30	LUNCH	11:50-12:30
Block 1 Double Block	12:30-3:10	Block 4 Double Block	12:30-3:10	Block 5 Double Block	12:30-3:10

MONDAY January 20 th	TUESDAY January 21 st	WEDNESDAY January 22 nd	THURSDAY January 23 rd	FRIDAY January 24 th
Invigilations (all day) Provincial Assessments	Invigilations (all day) Provincial Assessments	Invigilations (all day) Provincial Assessments	Invigilations (all day) Provincial Assessments	Grade 8 Tour 12:30-2:30
"IE" completion day	"IE" completion day	"IE" completion day	"IE" completion day	
9-12 pm: Gr 9 – Dig Lit + Programming				

STUDENT VISITORS

SD43 schools have a no student visitor policy during instructional time, unless visitors are participating in approved activities that include supervision (athletic events, concerts, etc.).

All our secondary schools have large stu-

dent populations and are responsible for the supervision and safety of their own students. Non-supervised visitors pose supervision concerns as well as potential safety concerns. As a result, students visiting other schools could face disciplinary measures. Likewise,

students should not be inviting other students to come to their schools during the school day.

Thank you for your support in helping to ensure that our school is a safe place for learning.

STUDENT PARKING

If a student is driving a vehicle to and from school, they must obtain a valid 2024—2025 Pinetree Parking Pass from the main office.

- Students must park in the designated student parking lot (over the overpass, Lot A)
- Vehicles parked in the student parking area without a valid pass will receive a parking ticket from the City of Coquitlam and may be towed.
- Students may not park in or enter the staff parking lot.
- Students may not enter or park in the Community Centre lot — front or back — between 8:00 am & 6:00 pm.



STUDENT DROP OFF/PICK UP

Drop-off/pick-up safety for our students

In order to ensure the safety of ALL students during drop-off and pick-up times, and to respect the staff and patrons of the Community Recreation Centre, parents/guardians are asked to please NOT enter the Community Recreation Centre's parking lot. Instead, parents/guardians may use one of the following options:

- Drivers must use the marked yellow zone beside the staff parking lot located off Pinewood Avenue (across from the Fire Hall). To drop off and pick up your students in a safe and legal manner, please drive as far along the marked drop-off area as possible before stopping. DO NOT use the staff parking lot. Once students have safely exited the vehicle, drivers MUST continue to drive forward and exit to Pinetree Way (via the Recreation Centre or Douglas College exits). This is the only way to keep this zone safe for all students and keep traffic moving in this area.

OR

- Drivers are permitted to use Lot A located in the Town Centre parking area. Lot A is at the end of the student overpass. Parents/guardians may drop students off at the bottom of the stairs of the student overpass. The school's entrance doors are located right at the other end of the student overpass. We suggest you have your child meet you after school at the stairs of the student overpass in Lot A.

In order to decrease traffic congestion and improve student safety, families should encourage students to walk to school whenever possible.

Contact your
Counsellor for
information

DUE DATES

CURRENT GRADES:

Gr. 9

Jan. 28, 2025

Gr. 10

Feb. 14, 2025

Gr. 11

Feb. 21, 2025

COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT NEWS

COUNSELLOR CONTACT INFORMATION

	Last names	
Ms. Sharon Starr/Ms. Linda Hamilton	A-I	sstarr@sd43.bc.ca / lhilton@sd43.bc.ca
Mr. Kevin Nelson	J-O	kenelson@sd43.bc.ca
Ms. Meena Dhillon	P-Z	mdhillon@sd43.bc.ca
Mr. Vinay Sharma, International Student Contact		vsharma@sd43.bc.ca

COURSE PROGRAMMING FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Counsellors have started the course planning sessions for the next school year!

Current grade 9 students will attend course planning sessions with Counsellors on January 20th, 2025. In addition, a Parent Programming Information Session will be held on January 16th in the evening for parents to learn more about the course selection process, graduation requirements, and post-secondary entrance requirements. We encourage parents to attend this informative session to help answer questions about their students' programming for grades 10 through 12. Course selection dates and deadlines:

Current grade 9's – January 20, 2025 during Digital Literacy @ 9am. Due Date—January 28, 2025

Current grade 10's – February 5, 2025, during ESS block. Due date—February 14, 2025

Current grade 11's—February 12, 2025, during ESS block. Due date—February 21, 2025

All students will be inputting their course selections themselves via MyEd BC and parents can ask their child to show them their intended courses for next year. We encourage parents to be involved in their child's course selection and planning process. It is important for students to be asking questions now to make good choices with their selections, as making changes later in the fall can become difficult and, in some cases, not possible.

We encourage all students to meet with their counsellor if they have questions about which courses to select and expect all grade 11's to meet with their counsellor before inputting their courses into MyEd BC.

Information regarding course planning and the PowerPoint from the Parent Information Evening will be available on the school website under Course Planning Information.

Counsellors are available to answer any questions you may have about your child's course planning and future goals, as is Ms. Moorhouse, our Post-Secondary & Career Advisor. Please email or call us.

Ms. Moorhouse, Post-Secondary & Career Advisor is also available to help parents and students answer questions about Post-Secondary. Please email her to book an appointment if you have specific questions regarding entrance requirements.

Ms. Moorhouse mmoorhouse@sd43.bc.ca

TRANSCRIPT ORDER REMINDER FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

Students applying to post-secondary institutions for September 2025 entry must sign-up for a BCEID and register/activate the Student Transcript Service. This process gives permission for the Ministry of Education to send official transcripts to post-secondary institutions. Student must also follow college and university grades reporting instructions to receive a conditional offer of admission. Different methods and deadlines must be adhered to.

[Order transcripts and certificates - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov2/education/postsecondary/grades_reporting/index.html)

WAYS TO SUPPORT COACHES

Respect is a fundamental aspect of any successful and harmonious relationship, and this holds true in the realm of sports as well. Coaches, the guiding figures on the sidelines, play a crucial role in the development of athletes both on and off the field. Treating coaches with respect is not only a matter of common courtesy but is also integral to fostering a positive and constructive sports environment.

To treat coaches with respect, it is essential to understand the multifaceted nature of their role. Coaches are not merely instructors; they are mentors, motivators, and leaders. They invest time, energy, and expertise into shaping athletes not only as competitors but as individuals with character, discipline, and a strong work ethic. Recognizing the dedication and responsibility coaches bear is the first step toward treating them with the respect they deserve.

In essence, athletes can show respect for coaches by being attentive, punctual, positive, communicative, appreciative, committed, and responsible. Fostering a culture of mutual respect contributes to a positive and fulfilling sports experience for both coaches and athletes.

Parents can express appreciation for high school volunteer coaches in various meaningful ways, fostering a positive and supportive coaching environment. One impactful way is through direct communication—expressing gratitude verbally or in writing. A heartfelt thank you note or a simple conversation after practice or games can go a long way in acknowledging their efforts.

Organizing a collective effort within the parent community can also be powerful. Collaborate to create a group card or gift, pooling resources to show a united front of appreciation. This could be a personalized coach's plaque, a gift card to a favorite restaurant, or a sports-themed item. Volunteering time and assistance can lighten the load for coaches. Whether its helping with equipment, organizing events, or coordinating team logistics, parents can contribute to the smooth functioning of the team and demonstrate their appreciation through action. Supporting team events and activities is another avenue for parents to show gratitude. Attending games and cheering enthusiastically is another avenue. This involvement not only fosters a sense of community but also reinforces the value placed on the coach's contributions.

In essence, parents can show appreciation by combining genuine expressions of gratitude, tangible gestures, active involvement, and respectful communication. Together, these actions reinforce the collective acknowledgement of the coach's dedication, fostering a positive sports experience for both athletes and those guiding them.

In the world of sports, treating coaches with respect is not just a courtesy; it is a crucial component of a successful and fulfilling athletic journey. Through effective communication, and acknowledgment of expertise, athletes and parents can contribute to a positive and respectful coach-athlete relationship. By fostering an environment of mutual respect, athletes not only enhance their own development but also contribute to the overall success and camaraderie of the team.

Luke Ireland, Athletic Director

LIFEGUARDING FITNESS 12

Pinetree has been working with the City of Coquitlam to offer a lifeguarding course in first semester next year at Pinetree Secondary. This course will offer certification in Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, Standard First Aid and CPR. We have a capacity of 24 students and the course will take place at the City Centre Aquatics Complex. When the lifeguard candi-

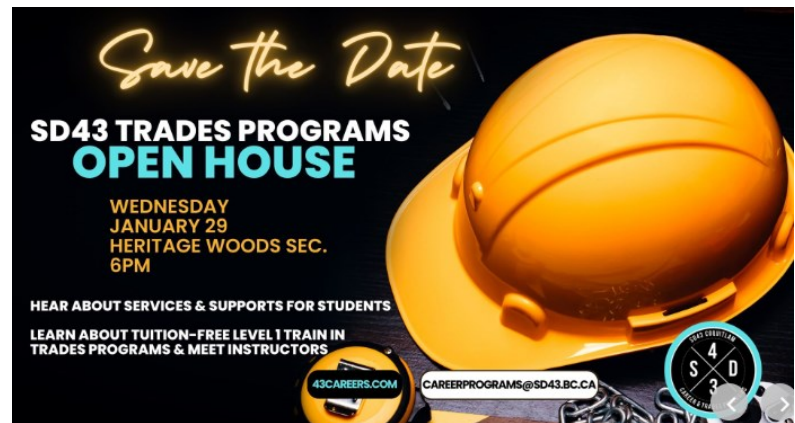
dates successfully pass the certifications, the City of Coquitlam will give them priority registration in February to the remaining courses they need to become fully certified. Subsequent certifications can include National Lifeguarding Courses, becoming a lifeguard instructor, and/or becoming a swim instructor. Those courses are offered by the City of Coquitlam. A

strong background in aquatics will be necessary. Students are required to swim 400m in 12 minutes to pass Bronze Medallion and 400m in 11 minutes to pass Bronze Cross. It is open to all students going into grades 10, 11, and 12. The details of the Pinetree Lifeguarding Fitness 12 course will be released in the 2025-2026 course booklet.

For more information, see the grade 10—12 Course Planning Booklet (coming soon)

SD43 TRADES PROGRAMS OPEN HOUSE

Students and parents interested in learning more about trades programs are encouraged to attend SD43's Trades Program Open House on Wednesday, January 29 at 6:00 pm at Heritage Woods Secondary.



Save the Date

**SD43 TRADES PROGRAMS
OPEN HOUSE**

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 29
HERITAGE WOODS SEC.
6PM

HEAR ABOUT SERVICES & SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS

LEARN ABOUT TUITION-FREE LEVEL 1 TRAIN IN
TRADES PROGRAMS & MEET INSTRUCTORS

43CAREERS.COM CAREERPROGRAMS@SD43.BC.CA

43CAREERS.COM

CAREERPROGRAMS@SD43.BC.CA

SD43

JOIN US FOR THE
PINETREE
MUSICAL
THEATRE
PRODUCTION OF

West Side Story

Tickets
\$15 Adults
\$10 Children 12 & under
//Students with ID

Pinetree Secondary School Jan 29-31
3000 Pinewood Ave, Feb 5-7, 2025
Coquitlam, BC Doors opens 6:30pm
Show starts 7:00pm

2025 YEARBOOK

REMEMBER IT, BY BUYING A YEARBOOK!!!

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

\$60. Reserve yours now! 2022, 2023, 2024 Sold out even though we ordered extras!

Grad Dinner Dance
2024—2025
Date: Sat., June 21, 2025
Location: Westin Bayshore

Commencement

2024—2025

Grade 12 Commencement

Date: Mon., June 23, 2025

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Orpheum Theatre

Student Messages

Please do not phone or text your child during class time. Urgent messages can be distributed through the office if needed. Thank you for cooperation.



Pinetree ~ A Smoke Free Environment

Please be aware that Pinetree and all other schools in SD43, Douglas College and the Coquitlam Community Centre, are "smoke free" environments and that there is no smoking of any kind, e.g. cigarettes, cannabis, e-cig or vaping, on any of these properties at any time. This applies to all staff, parents, students and visitors.

Please respect this expectation. Thank you!



SHARE'S YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES AND HEALTH PROMOTION TEAM INVITES YOU TO:

Youth Offering Listening Opportunities (YOLO)



YOLO is an interactive event where adults listen to youth speak about their life experiences in order to support parents/caregivers understanding of their own youth as well as youth in general.

WHEN:

February 6, 2025
6:30pm-9:00pm

WHERE:

2615 Clarke St, Port Moody
in the Boardroom Meeting Room

REGISTER BY JAN.24:



Please note, there is limited space and spots are reserved on a first come first serve basis.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- What's stressful for youth these days?
- How come youth use substances?
- How can I talk with my youth about substances?
- How can I improve communication with my youth?
- How can adults express their concern while maintaining their relationship with their youth?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR IF YOU ARE HAVING TROUBLES WITH REGISTRATION,
CONTACT JORDYN AT JORDYN.SINKIE@SHARESOCIETY.CA



COQUITLAM Summer LEARNING 2025



ELEMENTARY

July 8 – July 25, 9:00am - 12:00pm

8 LOCATIONS

Courses: K to 1 transition, English for Beginners, Visual & Performing Arts, French Immersion, Integrated Studies, Math, Reading & Writing, Coding (Info tech), Outdoor Science, STEAM, and more!

Free to all BC residents, SD43 Residency requirements apply.

04
MAR

Registration
6:00am

Registration
6:00am

07
MAR

MIDDLE

July 8 – July 25, 8:45am - 11:45am

3 LOCATIONS

Courses: Band, Guitar, Creative Writing, Drama/Improv, English for Beginners, Guitar, Home Ec/Culinary, Integrated Studies, English and French Immersion Language Arts, Mathematics, PE/Leadership, Coding (Info Tech), Outdoor Science, STEAM, Tech Ed, Visual & Performing Arts, and more!

Free to all BC residents, SD43 Residency requirements apply.

SECONDARY SKILL BUILDING

July 8 – July 25, 8:30am - 11:30am OR 12:00 - 3:00pm

2 LOCATIONS

Courses: English, English for Beginners, IB Math & Science, Jazz & Concert Band, Science, Home Ec, Sewing, 2D Animation, Metal and Wood Tech Ed, Math, Coding (Info Tech), Skills for Success. These non-credit courses may be taken to review previously covered course content OR preview a course. Academic Completion 9/10 for Science and Math is only available by school referral.

Free to all BC residents, SD43 Residency requirements apply.

07
MAR

Registration
6:00am

Registration
6:00am

06
MAY

SECONDARY FULL CREDIT

July 2 – August 7 (6 weeks)
8:00am – 11:30am OR 12:00pm – 3:30pm

2 LOCATIONS

Face-to-Face or Online Blended Fast Track

Courses: Life Science 11, Anatomy & Physiology 12; Career Life Education 10; Chemistry 11,12; EAL 10,11; English 10,11,12; English First Peoples 11,12; Mathematics 10,11,12; Physics 11,12; PHE 10; Socials 10,11, Science 10.

Free to all BC residents, SD43 Residency requirements apply.



www.sd43SummerLearning.ca/Phone 604-936-4261