

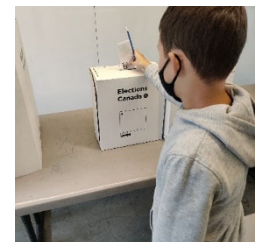


1. On October 1, the Lord Baden Powell (LBP) Elementary School community, together with the Parent Advisory Council (PAC), Trustee Lisa Park, Assistant Superintendents Carey Chute and Rob Zambrano, members of the Royal Canadian Legion Coquitlam Branch and artist Laura Johnson, celebrated the newly transformed outdoor courtyard. The project includes an outdoor classroom with a whiteboard and tables and features murals showcasing Indigenous art that welcomes the LBP community.

The PAC was very grateful to receive a \$10,000 donation from the Royal Canadian Legion Coquitlam Branch to help fund the transformation project and are also looking forward to their continued support for the next phase that includes building an interactive garden space.

2. A letter from Superintendent Patricia Gartland has been shared to families regarding the recent health and safety guidelines provided by the Provincial Health Officer and the BC Minister of Education. As of Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, all students are required to wear masks from kindergarten to Grade 12. School communities will be informed about exposure events on the [Fraser Health School Exposure Notifications website](#). Read the letter [here](#).

3. On September 20, Eagle Mountain Middle School students cast their ballots and experienced the voting process at school. This exercise empowers our students to learn more about government, the election process and the candidates running in the elections too.



4. SD43 is honoured to have witnessed the launch of the new Terry Fox Inspiration in Action Lesson Plan at TD Community Plaza in Coquitlam. Together with the BC Sports Hall of Fame, Darrel Fox of the Terry Fox Foundation, Métis Nation British Columbia and Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council (I-SPARC) the event served as the official launch of the Grades 4-7 lesson plan across Canada.

We are also proud to have piloted the Terry Fox Inspiration in Action Lesson Plan with our Grade 4/5 classes at École Glen Elementary School, where Terry attended school and located on one of his frequent training routes.



The new lesson plan incorporates Terry Fox's life story, the family's newly discovered Métis ancestry and explores how identity and personal values can be linked to culture. Learn more about the lesson plan here: <https://heroinyou.ca/learn/teachers/unit-9-terry-fox/>

### 5. September 30 marked Orange Shirt Day and the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Over the course of the week, SD43 commemorated and honoured those who were lost, the survivors, and the families and communities who continue to grieve, as a result of the residential school system in Canada.

Although SD43 schools were not in session, the whole SD43 community was encouraged to engage in education and conversations and to recognize this historic tragedy and the ongoing trauma as an important step towards reconciliation.

Below are some examples of how students and staff commemorated and recognized this day at school:

- Baker Drive Elementary School students coloured paper feathers and displayed them at the front of the school.
- Continuing Education Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada students reflected and shared messages of allyship and support on social media.
- Eagle Mountain Middle School decorated paper feathers and posted these decorations at the front of the school. A class also researched Burrard Inlet and the resources it provided to Indigenous communities prior to the arrival of European settlers.
- Port Moody Secondary School students decorated mini orange shirts and posted them all around the front of the school. In the Spanish 10/11 class, students were also asked to reflect and respond to how they felt about reconciliation and wrote this down on orange shirts.
- Riverside Secondary School students watched an Indigenous video and participated in a cedar craft project.
- 700 members at Maple Creek Middle School silently walked and circled the sports field with the [Coast Salish Anthem](#) playing in the background. They were also invited to spend some time with family watching a [video on the Origin of Orange Shirt Day](#) and the impact of residential schools.
- The Indigenous Department shared "The Survivor's Flag" which was highlighted in ceremonies in Ottawa as an expression of remembrance, honouring of residential school survivors and all the lives and communities impacted by the residential school system in Canada. [Learn more about the Survivor's Flag here.](#)



- Flags at all schools and district facilities were at half-mast from the morning of Monday, September 27th to the evening of Friday, October 1st in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day and as a show of support for victims and survivors of Canada's residential school system.
- Roy Stibbs Elementary School displayed several books about residential schools in their learning commons.



Read more information about [Every Child Matters here](#).

6. SD43 Education Foundation Chair Barb Hobson recently accepted a generous donation to fund a new scholarship set up by Port Moody Firefighters Charitable Society.



7. SD43 staff participated in various team building activities, conversations, seminars and workshops as they explored opportunities to learn and discuss new ideas for their teaching practice on Professional Development Day September 24<sup>th</sup>.

- Baker Drive Elementary staff used visual provocation to explore orange shirt day, numeracy, and indigenous ways of knowing through the lens of Forest school and place-based learning.
- Inquiry Hub staff learned how to implement SCRUM methods in their teaching practice.
- Mental Health Coordinator Rachel French presented to Blakeburn Elementary School staff about the MindUp Program, a program that helps teach children how to regulate their stress and emotions and form positive relationships with others.
- Rochester Elementary staff started the morning exploring topics around collaboration and building connections. They then had some fun finding all the hidden rooms in the school on a scavenger hunt and ended the day together working on relationship-building conversations.
- Port Moody Secondary staff shared their "I can" statements and had a morning session on navigating relationship-building conversations.
- Literacy Coordinator, Marna Mcmillan collaborated with Eagle Mountain Middle Teachers sharing how to use relevant and meaningful texts and writing experiences in their teaching plans.



8. The Board of Education appreciates teachers of SD43 and the vital role they play in assuring the well-being of our society. The Board joins the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in celebrating “World Teacher’s Day” on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

9. Strong Start is excited to welcome back families! Registration is open online, [learn more here](#).



10. The SD43 Mentor Support Team engaged in a circle to establish group norms, which included three rounds on “how we want to feel”, “what are our core values”, and “what gifts we bring to our team”. This work sets intentions around communicating the team’s strengths and provides a foundation for a cohesive team much like a classroom may explore agreements/charters to ground the classroom community at the beginning of the school year.



11. On October 2, Terry Fox class of 2008 graduate Katrina McCurrach was awarded the Doug Rowland Memorial Award for Coach of the Year at the Port Coquitlam Minor Lacrosse Association AGM and Awards Ceremony. Katrina has been a coach for Poco Minor Lacrosse since 2011 and has been a vital part of the development of female box lacrosse in the community. She has coached many female teams to provincial championships over the years and achieved medal outcomes almost every single time. There are many female athletes she has coached and mentored who have received university scholarships for field lacrosse in the United States.



She has also been selected as an Assistant Coach and Team Manager for the 17U female box lacrosse team for the 2022 Canada Summer Games, which will be the first-time female box lacrosse will take place at the games held in Niagara Falls from August 6-13.

### Upcoming Events

October 3<sup>rd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> – Mental Health Awareness Week and Fire Prevention Week

October – Disability Employment Awareness Month