



1. From May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>, SD43 held its STEAM Challenge Days where 21 elementary and 8 middle schools embarked on an out-of-this-world experience with their space-themed challenges.

With each station, students start with a period of ideation, then challenge their design using critical and creative thinking skills while using effective communication and collaboration to complete the following challenges:

### *Challenge 1: Air-Powered Paper Rocket Station*

Students learned to design, build, and launch three paper rockets using clay, PVC pipes, paper and cardboard allowing them to understand the concept of air pressure and design elements that would propel each rocket to fly further!

### *Challenge 2: Sampling Arm*

Students acted as engineers designing an apparatus that could scoop samples on a simulated "moon rover" using a scooter board, rubber bands, Makedo, and strings.

### *Challenge 3: Swimming on a Moon*

Students raced the icy waters of Europa, Jupiter's moon, using Sphero programmable robots, elastic bands, cleaning pipes, and Velcro straps.

Thank you to all our stellar students, teachers and Inquiry Hub student volunteers who rocked the STEAM challenges this year! Your astronomical efforts have truly launched us to new heights!



2. From May 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, eight secondary schools displayed an array of student artwork during the *Student Art and Scholarship Show* at the Coquitlam Centre Mall.

3. Congratulations to Edward Csuka, a Terry Fox Secondary School teacher, who was chosen as the 2022 recipient of the Canadian Association of Physicists Award for Excellence in Teaching High School Physics for the BC/ Yukon Region. Edward was awarded \$1000 for professional development and will also be receiving an all-expense paid trip to the Center for European Nuclear Research (CERN), the world's leading laboratory for particle physics in Switzerland.

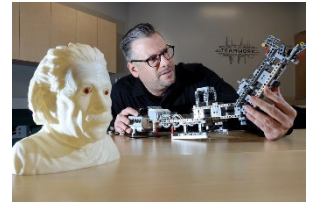


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4. Congratulations to Grace Gao, a Port Moody Secondary School student, who has been selected to receive a \$100,000 Schulich Leader Scholarship to apply toward her goal of attaining a Bachelor of Science at the University of British Columbia.



Grace Gao was selected for her outstanding final grades and academic achievements and will now be part of an esteemed network of national STEM scholars at one of Canada's leading universities. Congratulations!

5. SD43 Board Chair, Michael Thomas, presented his input and feedback during the BC Budget 2024 Consultation highlighting three (3) main priorities for the district on the budget consultation namely:
  - supporting vulnerable students
  - sustainable and equitable funding
  - limiting school district contributions toward capital projects

6. Congratulations to Carol Todd, SD43's Coordinator for Digital Literacy/Citizenship and Supportive Technologies who has been selected as the 2023 recipient of the University of British Columbia (UBC) Faculty of Education Alumni Educator of the Year Award. The award nomination demonstrated how Carol has consistently incorporated equity, diversity, and inclusion in professional practice while ensuring every student and educator feels valued and heard. Carol's passionate efforts in promoting and advocating for more awareness around online safety and exploitation was also heralded by the selection committee.



7. From May 25<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, the community witnessed the strength, speed, and agility of hundreds of young student-athletes as they competed during the highly anticipated 2023 SD43 elementary track and field meet held at Simon Fraser University.



Image Credits: Tri-City News

8. On June 1<sup>st</sup>, the SD43 Transition Team participated at the Coquitlam Accessibility Fair, raising awareness about the range of services they offer to students and families who are transitioning from school into adulthood.



Their primary focus is to provide families with essential information on transition services, such as Community Living British Columbia, Services to Adults with Developmental Disabilities

(STADD), and PWD, along with other community adult support services that contribute to the students' overall well-being post-high school.

In addition, the team organizes various programs designed to equip secondary students with vital employment skills, social skills, and personal goal-setting opportunities. These programs encompass meaningful work experiences, employment and entrepreneurship prospects, internship programs, as well as personalized work experience courses.



9. On May 30<sup>th</sup>, École Coquitlam River Elementary School officially opened their brand-new playground, which has been eagerly anticipated by their amazing students!

Designed with accessibility and inclusivity in mind, the playground boasts sensory artificial turf. This innovative feature ensures that all students, regardless of their abilities, enjoy a safe playtime experience.

The school is also proud to receive a Tire Stewardship Grant allowing them to use recycled tires as the playground's surface beneath the artificial turf. This not only creates a safe and vibrant play area but also promotes sustainability and environmental consciousness.

10. On June 12<sup>th</sup>, SD43 Trustees honoured retiring employees at the Westwood Plateau Golf and Country Club.

We would like to express our sincerest appreciation for your unwavering passion, dedication, and years of service you have contributed to this district.



We are truly grateful for all your contributions and wish you the very best in your well-deserved retirement.



11. On June 7<sup>th</sup>, the SD43 Student Leadership Council hosted its final meeting, celebrating an incredible year with fun carnival games and BBQ'd food for everyone. The council honoured graduating grade 12 executives and introduced the new members of the executive leadership council.



12. On June 7th, over 500 grades 11 and 12 students explored the world of career opportunities in the trades sector at the SD43 Trades Hiring Fair at Centennial Secondary School hosted by the Career and Trades Program.

Students networked with over 38 top employers and industry professionals who were eager to share their expertise and insights. Many of those in attendance were ready to potentially hiring these talented young students.

Thank you to the organizations who participated and to all the students who have taken a great step towards finding a successful and fulfilling future in the trades industry.



13. On May 19th, École Irvine Elementary School hosted a Verbathon Tournament at the school gym where teams of French Immersion students from Grades 2-5 competed by showing how fast they can conjugate French verbs – yes verbs!

It was a fun community “sport-like” event with the participation of parent volunteers, students, and teachers. Students were also excited to receive prizes at the end of the competition!

Pre-pandemic, French Immersion schools in SD43 participated in a district-wide tournament sponsored by Canadian Parents for French. A national tournament that was held every two years with the participation of thousands of Immersion, Francophone and FSL (French as a Second Language) students from schools across Canada. The first national tournament was held in 2000.

Verbathon was developed by Emmanuel Escueta, a Grade 2/3 French Immersion teacher at Irvine Elementary School, to make verb and grammar learning fun for students. This innovative language teaching system was also a significant factor in Mr. Escueta being awarded the Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2016.

14. The SD43 Gold Classic, presented by Polygon Homes, has successfully raised \$37,000 for KidSport Tri-Cities this year. This annual golf event brings together 144 employees and friends of SD43, with the support of community partners and staff volunteers.



Westwood Plateau has played a crucial role as a partner, offering a high-quality course, excellent food, and a well-organized tournament that has contributed nearly \$200,000 over the years.

The organizing committee, led by Sharon McKay, includes members from SD43's partner groups, Coquitlam Principals' & Vice Principals' Association (CPVPA), Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 561, Coquitlam Teachers' Association (CTA), and community members such as KidSport Tri-Cities Executive Director Chris Wilson.



15. Citadel Middle School's Leadership group, known as Citadel Cares, is passionately committed to making a positive impact in the community. This year, Aunt Leah's house was chosen as one of the main beneficiaries. The group organized several fundraising activities, such as pizza lunches, candy cup sales, tournament concession sales, and a chips and pop sale. Their collective efforts resulted in a generous donation of \$3000.00 in monetary funds to Aunt Leah's house, accompanied by \$500.00 worth of Walmart gift cards. Additionally, thanks to a kind contribution of \$500 from Maxine Wilson, the group was able to purchase gift baskets to provide further support.

### Upcoming Events

#### Commencement Schedule

SCHOOL	COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY DATE/LOCATION/TIME
Centennial	Monday, June 26, 2023 Simon Fraser University (SFU) Burnaby 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Dr. Charles Best	Tuesday, June 27, 2023 Simon Fraser University (SFU) Burnaby 6:00 pm
Gleneagle	Sunday, June 25, 2023 Orpheum Theatre 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Pinetree	Monday, June 26, 2023 Orpheum Theatre 6:00 – 10:00 pm



# Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of June 20, 2023

Learning for a Lifetime

Serving the communities of Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody

Riverside	Sunday, June 25, 2023 Simon Fraser University (SFU) Burnaby 11:00 am
Terry Fox	Saturday, June 24, 2023 Simon Fraser University (SFU) Burnaby 11:00 am
Coquitlam Alternative Basic Education (CABE)	Friday, June 23, 2023 TBD: Winslow Centre Gallery Room <u>or</u> CABE Time TBD
Continuing Education (CE) & Coquitlam Learning Opportunity Centre (CLOC)	Thursday, June 22, 2023 Port Moody Inlet Theatre 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Customized Learning Centre (CLC)	Thursday, June 22, 2023 Port Moody Inlet Theatre 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Encompass / Apex	Wednesday, June 21, 2023 Vanier Centre Gymnasium 4:30 pm
Inquiry Hub	Wednesday, June 21, 2023 Port Moody Inlet Theatre 7:00 pm