



Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of February 6, 2024

Learning for a Lifetime

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

1. On January 25, Superintendent Patricia Gartland attended a luncheon meeting at the official residence of Consul General Jongho Kyun of the Republic of Korea in Vancouver. Superintendent Patricia was invited as the Board Director of the BC Council for International Education, a crown corporation.



Attendees included Consul Yong Ju Shin, Special Advisor to the BC Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery, and Innovation for Gyeonggi Provincial Government Jinsu Song, Executive Director of BCCIE Randall Martin, and his staff.

We look forward to the continued growth of our international educational partnerships and future collaborations that can enrich our program benefiting our students and staff.

2. SD43's Student Wellness and Safety Team successfully launched the first session of the Family and Community Learning Series, a comprehensive initiative dedicated to enriching student well-being and safety in today's ever-changing world.

From January 18th to the 31st, over 580 families and district school counsellors watched the "Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age" documentary, a film that delves into the profound effects of extensive screen time on children's development.



Following the documentary, families engaged in an in-depth online panel discussion led by Carol Todd, SD43's Coordinator for Digital Literacy/ Citizenship; Shaunna Martin, SD43's Coordinator for Well-being & Positive Mental Health; Zach Hamed, Cybersecurity Training Consultant; and Sgt Kerry Shima, the Acting Officer in Charge for Alberta's ICE. The discussion covered crucial topics such as online safety, exploitation, digital privacy, tips for parents on screen time and wellness.

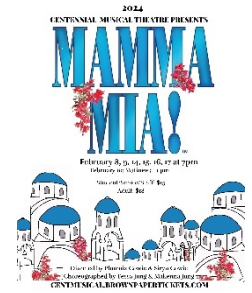
An SD43 parent shared their appreciation, saying, "I found it really interesting, and it gave me a lot of food for thought. Thank you for all you do to raise awareness about this issue."

The learning series continues with a second session focused on empowering our youth with Sexual Health Education led by Kristen Gilbert, Director of Education and Certified Sexual Health Educator from Options for Sexual Health in Vancouver on February 28, 2024 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on Microsoft Teams. Register [here](https://www.sd43.bc.ca/familyseries) and learn more at www.sd43.bc.ca/familyseries.



3. On January 28, SD43 Education Foundation Chair Christine Pollock accepted a generous donation of about \$12,000 to support the rebuild of Hazel Trembath Elementary School during the Golden Maple Lunar New Year Gala at the Hard Rock Casino hosted by the Golden Maple Culture and Arts Association. Thank you for your generosity and support!

- Centennial Musical Theatre brings back the beloved romantic comedy "Mamma Mia!". Featuring the timeless hits of ABBA, such as 'Honey, Honey', 'I Have a Dream', 'Super Trouper', and 'Thank You For The Music', this production is sure to be an unforgettable journey of laughter, love, and lively music.



Directed by the talented Siryn Cowie and Phoenix Cowie, and beautifully choreographed by Makenna Jung and Tessa Jung, "Mamma Mia!" is a delightful blend of storytelling and music. The show runs for 2 hours and 30 minutes, including a short intermission. It's a family-friendly production that is also wheelchair accessible, ensuring everyone can enjoy this heartwarming tale.

Performances are February 8 - 10 and February 14 - 17. All shows start at 7pm except for the Saturday, February 10 matinee which starts at 1pm. Staff/Senior/Student tickets are priced at \$15 while adult tickets are priced at \$18. Purchase your tickets [here](#).



- Thank you to the 46 SD43 students who applied to the 2024 Junior Firefighter Program this year. These students underwent rigorous fitness testing and panel interviews over the past month. 12 students were selected for the 2024 Coquitlam Fire/Rescue Academy and 9 for the 2024 Port Moody Fire/Rescue Academy. Thank you to the Coquitlam and Port Moody Fire Departments for your help with this year's selection process.

The upcoming Junior Firefighting Academies, running from March 15 to 24 in Coquitlam and April 18 to 21 in Port Moody, will provide applicants with a good understanding of the physical and educational components of Fire Rescue's basic training for new recruits.



- On January 26, Terry Fox STEAM students embarked on an adventurous journey in shipbuilding during their 2nd annual Hyde Creek Boat Race. After an insightful class led by a Seaspan expert, they dove into designing their boat prototypes.



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Thanks to Construction BC's generous support, our STEAM stars had the opportunity to bring their designs to life at Hyde Creek Pool using just cardboard and tape. In a dynamic two-hour session, they constructed boats focusing on speed, aesthetics, and functionality.

This hands-on experience not only taught students about the fundamentals of shipbuilding but also opened their eyes to potential careers and the fascinating principles of hydrodynamics.

The event culminated in an exciting race where students vied for titles like "Fastest Boat", "Longest Float", and "Spectacular Sinkage".

Learn more about the Terry Fox STEAM Program, visit their website [here](#) or their Instagram page [here](#).

- 7. On January 26th, 2024, Gleneagle Secondary School hosted their annual Grade 8 walkabout with the help of ConX leadership students.

During the tour, the Grade 8 students explored the various halls of the school, gaining valuable insight into the school's vibrant culture and diverse club offerings. Students also had the opportunity to listen to the amazing performance of the school's Jazz Band and Musical Theatre ensemble.



- 8. On January 16, the Board of Education proudly recognized SD43 students by presenting them with a Proclamation for the upcoming Real Acts of Caring Week, which is set to take place from February 11th to 17th.



On January 23, SD43 students presented Real Acts of Caring to the Mayors and Councillors of Port Moody and Anmore. The council meetings provided a wonderful opportunity to highlight the efforts of many students in our district who are actively promoting kindness in schools and the wider community.

- 9. SD43 welcomes all families who have children aged five (5) years old by December 31st to apply for Kindergarten February 6 to 8. More information on how to register for kindergarten can be found on our website [here](#).



Families with students who wish to attend another school outside their catchment area can apply for Cross Catchment starting February 9 at 9 am until February 14 at 4 pm. Application links will be posted on the main sd43.bc.ca website during this time. More information about the cross catchment process can be found on our website [here](#).

- 10. Harbour View Elementary School invites the community to celebrate their 60th anniversary on March 13, 2024 from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. Please RSVP no later than March 5, 2024 [here](#).





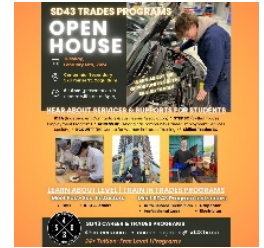
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11. SD43 families and students are invited to attend the SD43 Trades Program Open House on Tuesday, February 13th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Centennial Secondary School Gym (570 Poirier St, Coquitlam). This event is a great opportunity for students to learn about the various trade organizations, engage in meaningful conversations with both SD43 and post-secondary Level 1 program instructors and help gather more information for careers in trades.



12. The Ready, Set, Learn initiative sponsored by the B.C. Ministry of Education and Child Care provides families with an opportunity to make positive connections with the school system and local community agencies.

SD43 families are invited to attend the Ready, Set, Learn Community Breakfast to enjoy a free pancake breakfast, engage in fun activities, and meet early childhood experts and local community agencies. The event is held at various locations from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Families must RSVP by Thursday, February 22, 2024 [here](#).



Upcoming Events

- February 6 – 8 – Kindergarten Registration
- February 8- 10 & 14-17 – Mamma Mia the Musical at Centennial Secondary School
- February 9 – Cross – Catchment Process Begins at 9 am
- February 13 – SD43 Trades Program Open House at Centennial Secondary School from 6:00 pm -8:00 pm
- February 14 – Cross Catchment Process Ends at 4 pm
- February 14 – Hazel Trembath Pancake Breakfast organized by the Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam and Port Moody Firefighters Charitable Societies
- February 20 – 22 Multicultural Fair at Port Moody Secondary School
- February 23 – Elementary District Honour Choir at Blakeburn Elementary School
- February 24 – Gleneagle Secondary School Jazz Dinner & Silent Auction
- February 27 – Ready, Set, Learn Community Breakfast at Central Elementary School from 9:30 am - 11:30 am
- February – Black History Month
- March 13 – Harbour View Elementary School celebrates their 60th year anniversary from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm.