



EW ENERGY WIRE

SD43 Sustainability and Energy Management Newsletter

An initiative from SD43's Facilities Department - Energy Management and Sustainability

Issue No. 16 Date: September 2023

About Us

We are the District's Sustainability and Energy Management Team.

We work with BC Hydro, Clean BC, and Fortis BC and are part of maintenance operations. We work to find ways to make our schools run more efficiently, to reduce our carbon footprint. New LED lights at your school? That was us. New efficient heating system? We were there too. Holiday Shut Down competitions, us too, and so much more.

This newsletter is designed to let everyone know about SD43 sustainability initiatives. All through the District, great things are going on to make our students, our community, and our world more sustainable. We want to know what you are doing and how you are doing it.

Welcome back to another school year.

We are looking forward to working with the schools this year on your sustainability projects and initiatives. Please remember that we are here to help and encourage our district to become more sustainable and to develop a sustainability culture for all our students and staff.

We will be developing several sustainability initiatives this year including another Eco-Challenge Competition, Holiday Shutdown Competition, sustainability lesson plans and participation of students in developing this newsletter among others throughout the year.

Maintenance upgrade projects over the summer.

While teachers and students were enjoying their hard-earned summer vacation, our District Maintenance Operations staff have been working hard making improvements and focusing on getting your schools ready for the new school year.

Here are just a few projects we have been working on to make your schools better:

Terry Fox Oval: Those who use the field at Terry Fox are in for a great surprise. Elise our Gardner has spent lots of time bringing it back to life.



Outdoor Classrooms: Our grounds department has prepared outdoor classrooms at Castle Park Elementary, Centennial Secondary, and Gleneagle Secondary to support sustainable learning.





Outdoor Playgrounds, Sandboxes, and Gardens throughout the District

Meadowbrook Elementary



Roy Stibbs Elementary



Vanier Center: The very old boilers have been replaced with new highly efficient boilers and better controls to keep staff and students warm throughout the winter months ahead while reducing our GHG emissions.



Before Upgrade



After Upgrade

Millside / I HUB: Now the oldest school in our district, originally opened in 1907 as a two-room schoolhouse, has undergone multiple additions and changes. This summer we have replaced the old boilers with highly efficient boilers and new heating controls.



Heritage Woods Secondary: With the financial support of Fortis BC, we have installed a Gas Absorption Heat Pump (GAHP) as a pilot project. GAHP is different from a regular heat pump as it is designed to operate at much lower temperatures and is more efficient than the best boilers. The addition of the GAHP should help reduce our GHG emissions and our gas consumption while also being able to supply the school with some cooling during hotter months.



Installed tankless DHW heaters:

In the summer of 2023, SD43's highly skilled plumbing department completed DHW upgrades at 8 sites.

Name of School	Number of DHWs installed
Riverside SEC	4
Kwayhquitlum MID	2
Pinetree SEC	2
Porter Street EL	2
Panorama Heights EL	2
Gleneagle SEC	4
Terry Fox SEC	1
Riverview Park EL	1



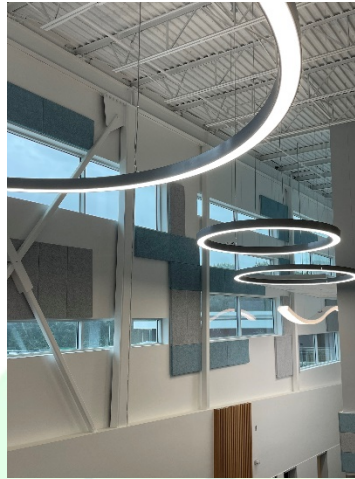
Pinetree SEC DHW Heater

New RTU 1&2 (Maple Creek): New RTUs installed at Maple Creek Middle School.



Lighting: Every year the district selects schools to change old inefficient lighting over to LED.

This summer some of our electricians have been changing the lights over to LED and adding dimmable lights in all the classrooms at **Heritage Mountain, Alderson, and Panorama Heights Elementary**. We will also be retrofitting **Westwood Elementary** in the Fall. Not only do these upgrades reduce our energy consumption, but they will also improve learning spaces.



Carpentry: Our carpenters are proud of the cabinets that they have built and changed over the summer. built and changed over the summer.

Central El has a new classroom. Our carpenters converted an old and unused computer room over to a new classroom.

Birchland Elementary: Look at the newly painted Birchland. Our painters have been working hard at it this past summer on this and many other projects.



Como Lake Middle gets a new Commercial Kitchen: Our carpenters have renovated the old basement lunchroom over to a new commercial kitchen.

Before Upgrade

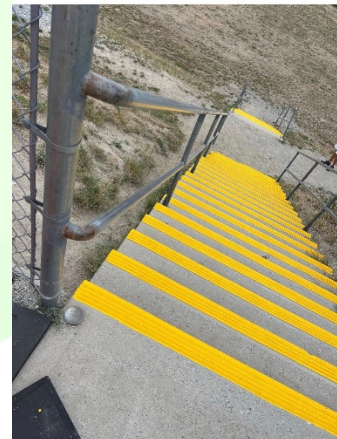


After Upgrade



Painters:

Yellow Marking for the visually impaired: Our painters have been working at many schools over the summer painting high visibility directional aids to improve our schools for those with visual impairments.



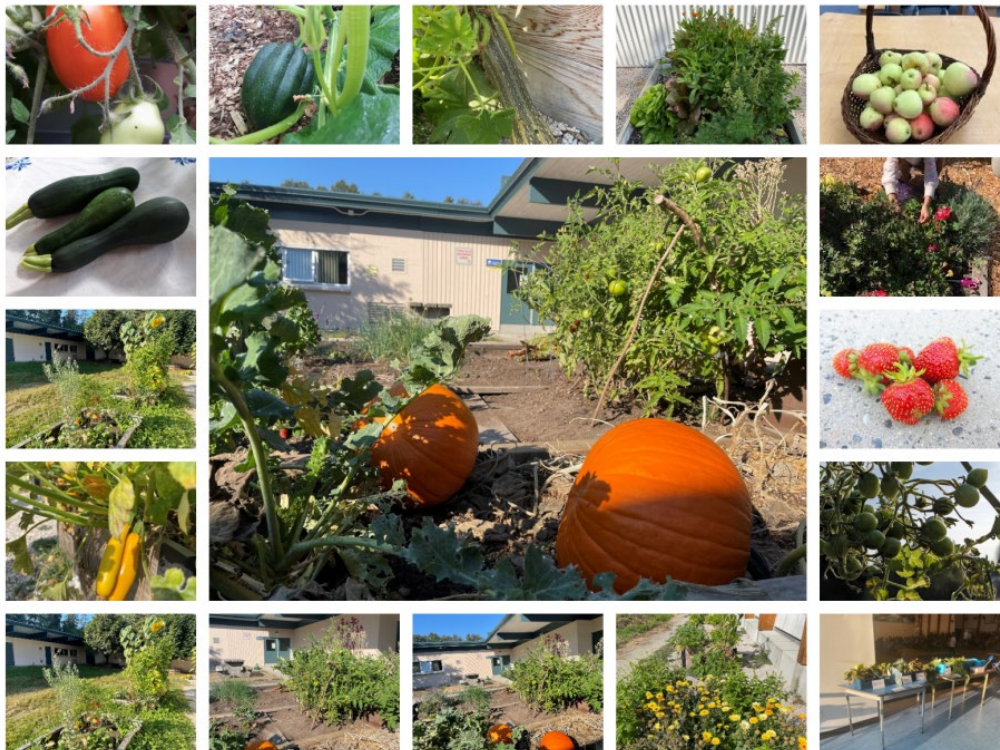
Riverside Secondary EV Chargers: Just installed 4 new EV chargers for the exclusive use of our staff and students. The District encourages its employees to move away from fossil fuel transport and we are providing electric vehicle charging at all new schools and adding chargers at existing ones as funds and demand permits. We hope you will see this as an added benefit for working at SD43 while reducing the carbon footprint.



Fall Gardens this year! Who grew what over the summer?

In May, thirty-three schools throughout our District received a donation from Urban Roots of over 100 starter plants, including vegetables, herbs, and strawberries.

Through the spring and early summer, schools throughout our District took to their gardens with real-life lessons focused on the promotion of food literacy and increasing sustainability within our schools and community. Now summer is over we want to see how you did. Please send us pictures of your harvest to highlight in the October edition and send them to us at apettyfer@sd43.bc.ca.



What is going on at your school?

If you or your school is doing something that will help sustain our world's environment, we want to hear about it and let everyone else know. Please contact us so we can help get the word out.

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In case of any questions or inquiries about the work done by the Maintenance team, please don't hesitate and call us at [604-941-6273](tel:604-941-6273).