

ACCEPTING CHALLENGES TOGETHER



WELCOME TO PINETREE SECONDARY

Twitter: @PinetreeSD43

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

November 2018

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.

Events Calendar 2018-2019



DECEMBER 2018	
4	PAC Meeting, 7pm, Library
11	Movie Night
12	Concert Band & Choir- 7:00
13	Parent Presentation on Raising Digitally Responsible Youth - 6:30pm
14	Jazz Band & Choir - 7:00
20	Winter Formal
21	Last day before Winter Break
JANUARY 2019	
7	First day back after Winter Break
10	Grade 9 Immunization 9:00 - 11:00 am
22	Numeracy Assessment - Gr. 10 Math Stud. Sem 1
23	Numeracy Assessment - for students who missed
24	Eng. 12 Prov. Exam - 9:00 - 12:00 noon Parent Info Mtg. Grad Program & Post Sec. Requirements
25	Communication Prov. Exam - 9:00 - 12:00 noon
28	Start of Sem. 2
29	Chinese Parent Mtg - 6:30 - 9:00pm
30 - Feb. 1, 6 - 8	Musical - SPAMALOT - Doors open at 7pm, Performance at 7:30
31	Immunization catch-up date
Feb. 1, 7 - 8	Musical - SPAMALOT - Matinee Performances for students - 1:00 - 3:00pm

Principal's Message

Dear Pinetree Families:

It is hard to believe we are already starting December. Students are over half way through their semester one classes. In November we sent home our first formal report card and followed them up with our Parent Teacher interviews. This was an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress with their teachers. We were very pleased with the number of parents who took advantage of the opportunity to communicate with their child's teacher. As we head towards the end of the semester we encourage all parents to keep the lines of communication open with their child and their child's teachers through the last two months of semester one. With November ending we want to congratulate all of our fall athletes. All of our teams had very successful seasons. A special congratulation to Pinetree's Cross Country team for winning a 5th straight District Championship. Our senior boys' soccer team made it the Fraser Valley Championships this year and Pinetree's grade 9 girls' volleyball team made it to the Provincial Championships and finished in ninth place. Pinetree's E-sports team is off to a very successful start to the season winning their first four matches.



In November we had a number of our students attending and contributing to this year's Holocaust Symposium.

December is a busy month at Pinetree with classes going until December 21st. During the month of December Pinetree will be participating in a food drive to help families in our community. Students will be encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to school to donate to support families in our area.

Our Music Department has their first concerts of the year planned for Wednesday December 12th and Friday, December 14th. Families are encouraged to come out and listen to a wonderful performance by our music students.

On December 13th we have a parent presentation from Safer Schools planned in our multi-purpose room. This presentation will provide parents information about managing students' cell phone and social media use (see attached flyer to register).

On December 20th our Grade 12 students have their next grad event. This is our Winter Formal. The event runs from 6:30 pm until 10:00 pm here at Pinetree. Grade 12 students can buy their tickets online using Schools Cash Online or from Mrs. Wigman in the office for \$35.00.

PINETREE SECONDARY

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Vice Principals

Mr. D. Phelan (A-J) dphelan@sd43.bc.ca

Ms. J. Payne (K-P) jpayne@sd43.bc.ca

Ms. B. Applewhite (Q-Z) bapplewhite@sd43.bc.ca

With the winter holidays fast approaching we ask all families to please try and minimize student absences due to extended vacations. It is more difficult for students to be successful if they miss long periods of time due to extended holidays. With how the holidays fall this year there is only two weeks of classes after the break before we get into the provincial assessment times. If families are going to be away for extended holidays we ask that students inform their teachers in advance and try to make up as much work missed before returning to school. The office also needs to be notified about extended absences.

Parents are encouraged to check out the entire newsletter as there is information about course selection process for the 2019-2020 school year, graduation events, PAC information and a call for parents interested in helping with After Grad celebrations.

Thank you.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone

Mr. J. Clarke

jclarke@sd43.bc.ca

COURSE PLANNING FOR 2019 - 2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Even though we are only just approaching the half way point of this school year we are already starting the process of course selection for the 2019-2020 school year. **Grade 9—11 students will attend presentations from counsellors in early February and March.** Course selection is a very important process for students and the school. The choices that students make drive the building of our timetable for the next school year; therefore, we need students and parents to make informed choices about course selection. We encourage parents and students to research in advance post-secondary requirements before the course selection process. We have a Parent information night planned for Thursday January 24th to talk about the Graduation program and post-secondary requirements. **In May students will be given the opportunity to review their course selections and let us know if there are errors. After this check in May we have limited ability to make changes.** This means in **September of 2019, we cannot have students coming to us asking for course changes.**

Thank you for your understanding and helping your child make positive course selection decisions. This helps us build the best possible timetable for our entire school community.

COUNSELLING CONNECTIONS

Mental Wellness – What does it mean?

We would like to create connections with our Pinetree community and encourage parents to create dialogue about mental wellness with their children. It is an opportunity to be proactive in making time and space to take care of our own mental health and recognize ways to support others. Here are two books that we recommend:

***Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* by Carol S. Dweck**

How does a fixed mindset serve you? The belief that skills, intellect, and talents are set and unchangeable. Would you like to learn about ways to think differently? In her book, Carol S. Dweck discusses the growth mindset: the belief that skills, intellect, and talents can be developed through **practice** and **perseverance**. Read and learn how you and your child can apply a growth mindset to your life.

***Brainstorm* by Dan Siegel**

Brainstorm is an informative and easy-to-read book on helping parents understand the teenage mind and what changes take place developmentally during those years. The book discusses why this period is important in a child's life and offers helpful strategies on navigating this time through conversations and practices to shift negative perspectives.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

Students intending on pursuing a post-secondary program beginning Sept. 2019 must register for a BC Government account, a **BCeID** to access the **Student Transcript Service (STS)**. This service is an online application that allows students to access their official transcripts, certificates, scholarship information, course assessment and examination marks. Students can also order and electronically send transcripts to post-secondary institutions. This process ensures that official transcripts are sent to post-secondary institutions. Students at Pinetree will have an opportunity to sign-up and register for the STS during PACK on Wednesday, Nov. 28. Please verify that your son or daughter has completed this process.

To sign-up for a BCeID and register/activate the Student Transcript Service, students must visit the following link:

<http://www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca>

In addition, universities require students to report 'unofficial' grades by 'self-reporting' or 'uploading' a transcript via their university student account or send a transcript by email through a school official or directly by the student. This reporting of grades is necessary for a student to receive a 'conditional' offer of admission. Grades will be verified by the university when official grades are received electronically from the BC Government via the STS.

Important Post-Secondary Application Dates and Deadlines for Sept. 2019 Admission:

Douglas College: Apply now!

BCIT: Apply now!

KPU: Early deadline is March 1, 2019 – apply now!

Capilano Univ.: Rolling admissions – apply now!

SFU: Application deadline is Jan. 31, 2019.

UBC: Early application deadline is Dec. 1, 2018 / Final application deadline Jan. 15, 2019.

UVic: Application deadline is Feb. 28, 2019.

U of Alberta –Deadline is March 1, 2019. Rolling admissions – apply now!

U of T: Final deadline is Jan. 16, 2019 – apply now!

All Other Ontario Universities: Varying deadlines. Apply now!

McGill: Application deadline is Feb. 1, 2019 (*apply early if reporting marks between Jan. 6 – Feb. 1*)

Visit institution websites for the most up-to-date information.



BC applications: <https://apply.educationplannerbc.ca/>

Ontario applications: <https://www.ouac.on.ca/ouac-105/>

Alberta applications: <https://www.applyalberta.ca/>

McGill and all other: visit post-secondary website to apply

GRAD TRANSITIONS

Grade 12 students are reminded of these graduation transition due dates:

October 1st	-	DPA forms for grade 10, 11 & 12
November 30th:	-	Updated Resume and Cover letter
January 31st	-	Nutrition assignment
February 28th	-	Transition Plan & Financial plan
March (TBA)	-	ICBC presentation & assignment
March 13th	-	Exit Interviews
April 30th	-	30 Hours Work/Volunteer form/Documents due

DEVICE USE DURING CLASS TIME

In order to have student focus remain on education during class time, we are asking them to abide by the following guidelines:

- During class time devices should be for educational purposes only. That is, students should not be using their phones to watch movies, text, receive calls, etc. Students can place their phone upside down on their desk, in their jacket, or in their backpack.
- If students need to use the washroom, we ask that they leave their phones behind. A student can leave it in their backpack, place it on the teacher's desk, whatever they choose.
- Students should not have earbuds in when class is engaged in a lesson.

If students do not adhere to these guidelines, a teacher may ask them for their phone/device. If a student refuses to do this, the teacher may refer them to the appropriate administrator. We are asking parents/guardians to only contact their children on their off block or at lunch. If there is a family emergency, please contact the school office so we can provide support to your child.

PAC NEWS

At the next meeting, PAC will be discussing the approved budget thus far, fundraising, and implementing a committee for the Dry After Grad. All Grade 11 and 12 parents are encouraged to come out, participate and get involved in organizing the Dry grad.

*Next meeting will be held on Tuesday,
December 4 at 7pm in the School Library*

AFTER-GRAD INFORMATION

Historically Pinetree's parent community has organized an after grad event for graduating students. This event takes place after the school's formal graduation dinner and dance celebration. At this point Pinetree does not have a parent after grad committee started for this school year. We are asking any interested parents of grade 11 and 12 students to attend a meeting on December 5th in the Library. This meeting will be a chance to share information with parents about what after grad involves and to see if there is enough parent interest for running this event for the 2019 grad class.

BAND AND CHOIR

This year our Music Dept. will be holding 2 performances for their annual winter concert. We encourage you to come out, get in the Christmas spirit and support these very talented students.

December 12 – Concert Bands and Choir Concert

- Multi Purpose Room
- Three concert bands and the choir will perform
- Doors open at 6:30 pm

Concert starts at 7:00 pm



December 14 – Jazz Bands and Vocal Jazz Concert

- Multi Purpose Room
- Three jazz bands and the Vocal Jazz singers will perform
- Doors open 6:30 pm

Concert starts at 7:00 pm

DRAMA NEWS



Treehouse Theatre, Pinetree's Drama Department, will present the short comedy "STAFFROOM" by retired teacher Mr. Richard Dixon tonight, Thursday November 29, 2019 at METFEST, the annual School District 43 Theatre Festival. Congratulations to the cast and crew for their hard work rehearsing and preparing for this annual event!

METFEST runs from Thursday, November 29-Saturday December 1, 7:00pm-10:00pm at Heritage Woods Secondary. Tickets are \$5, and they are available at the door on show nights.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

BASKETBALL

After a successful 2017-18 season Pinetree's basketball program has set some high goals and expectations for the 2018-19 season. Our players at all three levels -Grade 9, Juniors and Seniors - are very eager to compete with the hope of an enjoyable season.



The teams are training four times a week and have already faced several competitive opponents that are provincially ranked. Our basketball teams will enter their season by hosting Pinetree's Christmas Classic at all three levels - Grade 9, Junior and Senior levels. We will be competing against top teams in the province of British Columbia. Our junior boys tournament has two provincially ranked opponents in the pre-season while our senior boys tournament boasts six provincially ranked teams as well as visiting teams from Calgary, Victoria, Kelowna and Prince George. The Pinetree Christmas Classic series is also a great stage for many students at our school. We have countless volunteers who help us set up this event -from students who drew the posters welcoming the visiting teams, scorekeepers and event runners, the marching band from our music department to game directors and concession stand operators. The grade 9 boys tournament runs Monday to Thursday (December 3rd to 6th) while the junior boys tournament begins on Monday and ends on Wednesday (December 10th to 12th). The senior boys tournament runs from Monday to Tuesday (December 17th to 18th) and it is free of charge to attend.

All students, staff, parents and alumni are invited to come and support our players!

PINETREE SKI AND SNOWBOARD TEAM

Students interested in learning how to race and compete in skiing or snowboarding are encouraged to join the Ski and Snowboard Team. Students need to at least be able to get down an intermediate or advanced run and have their own equipment, but no racing experience is needed. All races are at Whistler Blackcomb; buses, lift tickets, race instruction and afternoon lessons are included for about \$95/day. There will be seven races this year from early December to early March.

For more information please contact teacher/coach and former National Snowboard Team member Derek Wintermans at: dwintermans@sd43.bc.ca



CROSS COUNTRY

It has been quite a record-breaking year for Pinetree Cross Country 2018! After losing our star runners from last year, Yvonne Wang, Samantha Nix, Nick Rodriguez, and Matteus Ticne and poor Junior Girls numbers turn out this fall, we rebounded well and with a spectacular season, finishing with winning our 5th Consecutive DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP – the John Taylor Award trophy! (Has never been done before!) I am very proud of our group, as we have truly improved a lot from the beginning of the year. I also want to thank Chenille Wong - a Grade 12 student, who wrote a great article in the Pinetree Post about our team. It is nice to hear good things from the students about them enjoying the team. A special thanks go out to all our volunteer drivers. As you know, without our staff and parents helping to drive our kids up to Mundy Park, there would basically be no team.

It has been a tough season but also the best one ever weather-wise! The only real rain day we had was our traditional Terry Fox Run where we run the course twice as a team. Also, we had a helper and assistant coach, Ms. Pirvu, this year and hopefully for many years to come. It truly has become a tradition at Pinetree for the Spirit and Energy of our Cross-Country team.

It has been an honour and a privilege to be the coach since 2004 from humble beginnings. It is such a thrill to see the athletes improve each week and to share in inspiring others to do better.



OUR TEAM WITH COACH WAZNY
AND ASST. COACH PIRVU



COACH WAZNY WITH THE
TROPHY

Coach: *Mr. Wazny*

Asst Coach: *Ms. Pirvu*

VOLLEYBALL

Junior Girls Volleyball

Tremendous growth is how coaches and players would describe the Junior girls season. The Junior girls season ended recently by successfully meeting our goal of making it through to the District Playoffs at Charles Best Secondary. While we lost in the first round, the team played with grit and toughness, winning many of the rally points against a competitive Heritage Woods team. Coaches Jason Shi (Pinetree Alumni), Ms. Rioux and James Lee (Student coach) are all equally proud of this group of girls.

2018 Junior Girls Roster

Mikella McLaughlin

Caitilin Abastillas

Amy Lee

Isabel Liu

Kate Lee

Abby Forster

Alissa Abastillas

Kailey Sclater

Renielle Ignacio

Vennise Ortega



GRADE 9 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

The Pinetree Grade 9 girls team had a very memorable season. New to the school, and new to volleyball, this group of girls came together and quickly became a very competitive team. Their eagerness to learn, play and compete helped them to develop quickly. They surprised many with their 5th place result in the Grade 10 Douglas Tournament, and their 1st place finish at the Days at the Dome tournament. They finished second in Coquitlam with a league record of 7-1, and came in second at district championships. This result earned them a spot at the Fraser Valley Championships where they continued to impress by finishing 2nd at the tournament and earning a spot at the grade 9 Provincial Championships where they finished 9th. Many of the players are looking forward to continuing to play and we are excited to see how they will do in the coming years.



SENIOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Our Pinetree Senior Girls Volleyball team battled through 4 tournaments this season. We played hard through all our league matches placing 3rd in a tough District. We were edged out in a Fraser Valley match against a strong Maple Ridge team.

Lucy Huang (Gr.12) showed tremendous heart and leadership on court all season. Her passing, serving and quick attacks were important keys to our successes. She stepped up as team captain and invested positive energy in keeping our team bonded.

Alicja Hardy-Francis (Gr.11) has been a rising star in volleyball and brought spectacular blocking, varied attacking and surprisingly solid passing, defense and setting to our court all season. Watch for more greatness to come from her next year.

Abigail Comeau (Gr. 10) is an unsung hero of our team this season and anchored our entire offense as our setter. Her incredibly positive attitude, tremendous footspeed, and ability to deliver excellent sets enabled our young team to have more success than other teams expected. She will be another star to watch.

Rizel Diopita (Gr. 10) is another key player for our T-Wolves this season. Expecting to be a libero (defensive specialist), Rizel found herself as a power hitter on the starting line-up and kept that role all season. Her ball control, tough serve and array of smart shots make her an asset whether on the left side or in the back row. Riz is a fierce competitor with a bright future in volleyball.

Kaira Martinez (Gr. 11) was sorely missed for the last month of the season as she suffered an ankle injury in tournament play. Her athleticism, attacking prowess and outstanding ball control are matched by her humility and drive. She can jump like a video game character.

Kaylen Stratton brought fire and desire to the court. She struggled with a shoulder injury after bringing out her spike serve in a league match. Kaylen's competitive spirit and love for the game will fuel her fire next season.

Gr. 12 graduating players joining Lucy in the TWolves Volleyball grad class this year are all tremendous leaders: **Japhia Gun, Anastasia Pokrovskaya, Della Hamzah and Sheida Keshavarzi.**

Japhia was able to attend practices only sporadically but was one of our stronger passers. Predicting the ball flight of tough over hard, jump float and spike serves being hammered at you is not easy. We were happy to have Japhia on the court to assist with serve receive.

Anastasia loves volleyball but her busy schedule created some challenges this season. In spite of this, she was happy to practice and play when she could. Our team appreciated her aggressive serving.

Della Hamzah's quickness, solid skills and composure on the court made her an asset. Her busy schedule was challenging but the team loves her smile and ability to go with the flow.

Gr. 11s **Katty Hu, Kaylen Stratton, Erin Illett, Vanessa Zwierchowski and Kimia Bargi** had excellent seasons, improving their serving, serve receive, defense, attacking, and volleyball know how. **Katty's** quick arm swing means that she can pound a spike or a serve. This season she gained consistency with these two skills and also with her passing. This consistency, combined with her speed and jumping ability make her a player to watch next year

Vanessa Z improved her spiking more this season than any volleyball player I have ever coached. She went from not knowing her footwork to pounding balls with major velocity. As she gains all the skills to be a well rounded player, watch out!

Kimia Bargi improved all her skills this year to the point where she is now a well rounded volleyball player. Her positive, fun attitude made our season so much more fun. She is ready for more playing time next year!

Special thanks to Mikey Ramsden for being an excellent, committed assistant coach.

Winter Weather Ahead!



Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if at all possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

However, on occasion, a district-wide or partial-district closure is required due to extreme weather. Partial-district closures affecting individual schools may occur due to the very different geography within our school district. If there is a partial-district closure affected schools will be identified.

The decision on schools remaining open or needing to be closed, because of extreme weather, occurs **before 6:30 a.m.** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 a.m. via the School District 43 website www.sd43.bc.ca and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.

Extreme weather can also impact transit. Transit schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents seeking information on transit schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/>

We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: www.sd43.bc.ca.

While the District tries to make the best decision with the information available, the weather does change quickly. Therefore, when schools remain open, decisions to stay at home during challenging weather conditions should be made by each family.

Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>

ATTENTION PINETREE STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Trip to France and Spain Summer 2019

Students can experience an unforgettable adventure by joining our Pinetree group for a 13-day stay in Spain and France. They will experience incredible landscapes and beaches, authentic Spanish and French food, rich history - not to mention fantastic museums and striking architecture. Don't miss this opportunity. For more info contact Ms. Korby.



LEADERSHIP HAPPENINGS

Dec 3rd - Dec 14th

Pinetree Winter Food Drive

Please donate money or non-perishable food items to your block 2 or 3 class. Class with the most donations wins a Pizza lunch.

Dec 11th - 3:45pm - 6pm

Movie Night

Free Event. ALL grades invited. Several movie choices. Sign up for your choice in the foyer at lunch. Very inexpensive non-profit concession available.

Dec 20th - 6:30pm - 10pm

Winter Formal

VIBE DJ, Laser, lights, fog. Photo Booth, Food, Prizes (win an iPad, AirPods & other prizes).

\$35 includes everything. Sign up online (SchoolCashOnline.com)

YEARBOOK



Raising Digitally Responsible Youth



December 13, 2018

6:30 – 8pm

**Pinetree Secondary
Cafeteria**

**For Parents of School-Aged
Children**

With society heading in a direction of being constantly connected to technology, what do we need to know as parents to protect our kids and teach them responsible and appropriate use of technology? The parameters of rules and expectations that you put in place at home will undoubtedly guide their behaviour in the years to come. Please join us for an informative presentation which will cover the following topics and more! **PARENTS: Do not miss this free event!**

- **Social Media Update** – The most current apps & trends in their social media lives
- **Pick Your Battles!** – You will have to balance the yin with the yang, promote independence whilst taking a strong stance on certain subjects
- **Current Research** – Brain development & technology, violent video games
- **Digital Footprint and Reputation** – With their future approaching, recruiters and employers are taking note – what will they find?
- **Tips & Tricks to Use at Home**

Please rsvp by email to: jpayne@sd43.bc.ca to reserve your seat!



SAFER SCHOOLS TOGETHER - an organization focused on promoting a climate and culture of safety in schools through comprehensive education - www.saferschoolstogether.com



COMMENCEMENT
2018 - 2019
 Commencement for Grade 12s
 Date: Wednesday, June 26, 2019
 At the
 Orpheum Theatre

SCHOOL POLICY ONLINE FORMS
 Did you remember to complete the school policy online forms? If you have not already done so please click on the website link
<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/pinetree/Pages/default.aspx>,
 then click on the **School Cash Online** (on the right side of the home page) and follow the instructions. Thanks in advance for completing these forms.

COQUITLAM CONTINUING EDUCATION
 Did you know it is never too late to complete your high school studies or train for a new career? Do you want to increase your conversational English language skills and comprehension? Coquitlam Continuing Education has the answer for you. Browse their Fall catalogue at <http://online.flipbuilder.com/bmr/wwto/mobile/index.html> to see what they have to offer. You will be pleasantly surprised.



GRAD DINNER DANCE
2018—2019
Westin-Bayshore Hotel
Saturday, June 15, 2019



Pinetree ~ A Smoke Free Environment
 In our first week, we will discuss expectations we have of students at Pinetree. Until then, please be aware that Pinetree and all other schools in SD #43, Douglas College and the Coquitlam Community Center, are all “smoke free” environments and there is no smoking of any kind, e.g. cigarettes, cannabis, etc., e-cig or vaping on any of these properties at any time. This applies to all staff, parents, students and visitors.
 Please respect this request. Thank you!



STUDENT MESSAGES
 in order to continue to provide a high degree of service, we wish to reinforce our policy of **NOT** passing on messages from home to our students. **UNLESS IT IS A MEDICAL OR OTHER SERIOUS EMERGENCY**, we will not provide messaging service.

