

# École Porter Street Elementary A Learning Community

# NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

*"Take care of yourself, take care of each other,  
take care of this place. Together we are better."*

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission at Porter Street Elementary is to create a caring, respectful community of learners.

The school community is focused on creating a socially responsible school climate to enhance student learning.



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## An update from our PSLT - Porter Student Leadership Team

Our PSLT is comprised of thirteen extremely motivated Grade 5 who want to make a POSITIVE and SIGNIFICANT difference in our school, community and globally.

Each of these amazing students display maturity, a keen willingness to make a difference, boundless eagerness and endless passion!

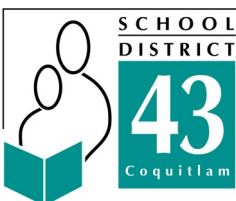
The purpose of our PSLT is to help empower and challenge our young people to act with intention and lead with compassion and conviction so that together we can transform the lives of others both locally and globally. Together with the leadership, support and care from two teachers, Ms. Turpin and Ms. McCall, our PSLT meets weekly during lunch to identify the issues that spark their passions and create the change they want to see. We will be on continuous learning journey during the year to find different ways we can support both our local and global communities.

**Our next PSLT event is our HOT CHOCOLATE SALE tomorrow, Wed Feb 1 beginning at 8:30 am in the south undercover area - minimum donation of \$1**



All proceeds will go to WE; just to remind you all...

WE Schools is the year-long program that nurtures compassion in young people and gives them the tools to create transformational social change. Together they offer young people the tools and the inspiration to take social action, empower others and transform lives, including their own. The WE movement is a celebration of children and youth making a difference in their local and global communities.



SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**43**  
Coquitlam

As you may know, Place des Arts and School District 43 Community Connections have been working together since 2012 providing in-school arts programming in an effort to increase accessibility and exposure to the arts for children and youth. Place des Arts is an educational arts centre located in Maillardville, Coquitlam known for quality programming and instruction, with over 40 years of excellence in arts education.



1120 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3K 1G2  
T 604.664.1636 | F 604.664.1638  
info@placedesarts.ca | www.placedesarts.ca

**Learning for a Lifetime**

In addition to the in-school programming offered by Place des Arts, the centre also offers regular art camps. Coming up, Place des Arts will be

offering a one-day [Day of the Arts](#) camp on the February 24 School District Pro-D Day for students in kindergarten to grades 5. Day of the Arts runs from 9:00am – 3:45pm. The theme for February is *Myths, Tales and Folklore*, and children may choose from several day-long activity blocks featuring a variety of visual and performing arts classes that reflect this theme.

During Spring Break, Place des Arts will be offering a [Spring Break Camp](#) for students in kindergarten to grade 5 and two weeks of half-day art intensives for students in grades 6 to 9. Place des Arts' spring break art activities are designed specifically with each age group in mind. Highly skilled instructors and a low student-to-instructor ratio provide a quality educational experience.

Please view these linked [Day of the Arts](#) and [Spring Break](#) flyers for class descriptions, registration information and more details about the camps and Spring Break Intensives.

Registration for the February 24 Day of the Arts is now open. Registration for the Spring Break Camp and intensives opens on Monday, January 23.

Please kindly distribute this information to your students and their families, either by posting on your community bulletin board or by including this information in your newsletters.

If you have any questions about Place des Arts' arts camps, please feel free to contact Place des Arts Fine and Performing Arts Programmer Jessie Au at 604.664.1636 ext. 33 or [jau@placedesarts.ca](mailto:jau@placedesarts.ca).

If you would like more information on in-school programming, please contact SD43 Community Connections & Healthy Living Coordinator Jeff Stromgren at [jstrongrem@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:jstrongrem@sd43.bc.ca).

## STAFF PARKING LOT - a reminder from staff

- Please **DO NOT** park in either our north and south parking lot
- There are not enough parking stalls for the number of staff we have
- Drop-off and pick-up is allowed in our north Staff Parking Lot; it is designed as a 'round-about' for this purpose
  - Cars should not be left unattended – this lot is for drop-off and pick-up only



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING!**



## WINTER WEATHER IS STILL WITH US!

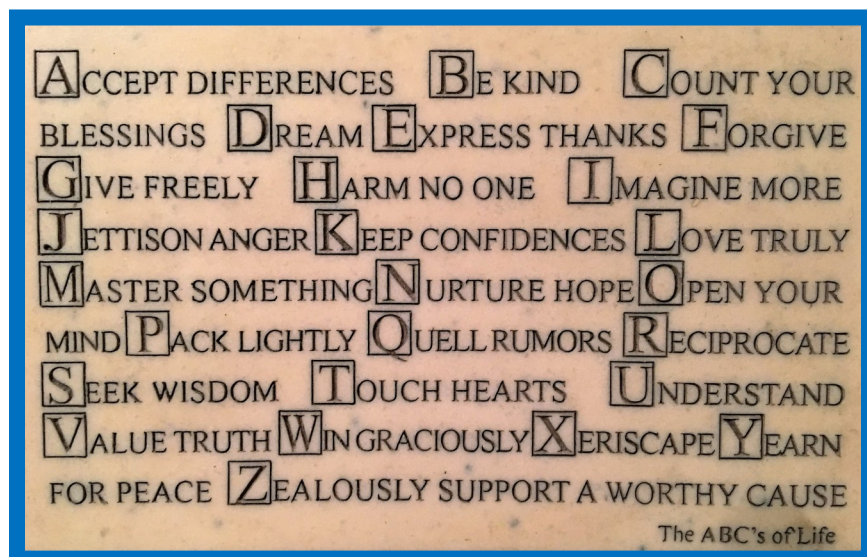
Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain **OPEN**, if at all possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

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](http://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/>



## Kid-Friendly Version of our Porter School Code of Conduct

Our Kid-Friendly version of our Porter School Code of Conduct is found in your child's student planner. Please review with your child or children. Involving your children in a discussion at home would certainly make it more of a living document and would help to reinforce common language and expectations. Your time, efforts and support are greatly appreciated.

### École Porter Street Elementary Code of Conduct

Our **school motto** is: "Take care of yourself, take care of each other, take care of this place!"

#### Rights and Responsibilities

I have the **RIGHT** to learn in this School.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to follow instructions, remain on task, and not interfere with the learning of others.

I have the **RIGHT** to hear and be heard.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to not talk or make noises when others are speaking.

I have the **RIGHT** to be treated with respect in this school.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to treat all others with respect.

I have the **RIGHT** to be safe from physical and verbal violence in this school.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** not to physically or verbally harm anyone else.

I have the **RIGHT** to privacy and to my own personal space.

It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to respect the personal space and property of others and to accept their right to privacy.

#### Acceptable Conduct

Responsible behaviour looks like this:

##### On the playground:

- Include others
- Play safely
- Hands and feet to yourself
- Kind and suitable words

##### In the hallway:

- Walk and stay to the right
- Use a whisper voice
- Hands and feet to yourself

##### In the classroom:

- Listen carefully to others
- Work hard to do your best
- Never interfere with other people's learning
- Move safely
- Respect the property and space of others
- Use kind and suitable words

##### In formal assemblies:

- Enter the gym silently
- Sit on bottom with hands and legs folded
- No talking
- Hands and feet to self

##### At lunchtime in the classroom:

- Stay seated at your desk
- Eat only your own lunch
- Eat all of your lunch and clean up any mess that you make
- Use 'indoor' voices when speaking
- Kind and suitable words
- Hands and feet to self
- Dismiss yourself when the bell rings

##### In the washroom:

- Flush the toilet
- Wash your hands (with soap)
- Report any problems to an adult

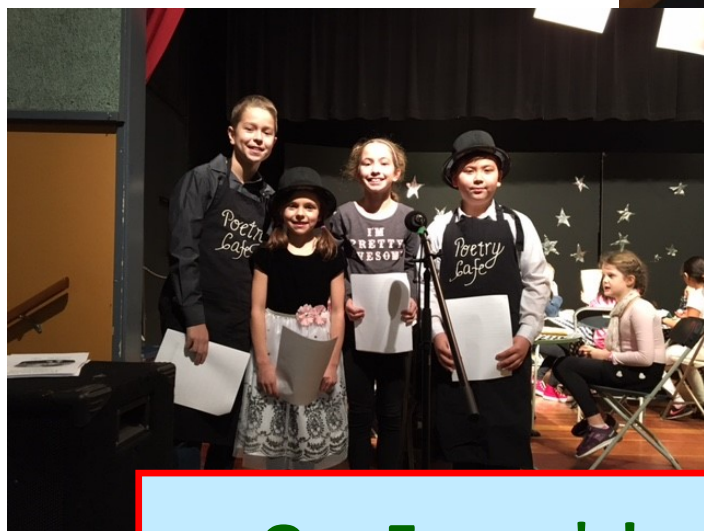
# Poetry Café



**The Band!**



**Our Poets!**



**Our Emcee's!**



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New to Canada?

**Montgomery Centre**  
380 Montgomery St., Coquitlam  
604.936.4261

**Millside Centre**  
1432 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam  
604.936.4285

**Vanier Centre**  
1600 King Albert Ave., Coquitlam  
604.945.7311

**Coquitlam Learning  
Opportunity Centre (CLOC)**  
104-2748 Lougheed Hwy., Port Coquitlam  
604.945.4211

**Night School Location**  
1195 Lansdown Dr., Coquitlam  
604.464.5793

For All Your Adult Learning Needs

*Register online or by phone today!*

[www.ce43.com](http://www.ce43.com)

604.936.4261



# School District 43



## *Free Ready, Set, Learn Event for Families & their 3-5 Year Olds*

Children will be able to participate in a variety of play based learning activities, listen to stories and have a healthy snack. Parents will be able to learn and play with their child as well as meet with early childhood education experts and local community agencies. Adding even more fun to the festivities, enjoy an award-winning show by children's entertainer Will Stroet. Morning shows will be at 10 am and afternoon shows will be at 1:30 pm.

### Drop into any one of the following events. It's all free!

**Thursday, March 2**  
**9:00-11:30**  
Bramblewood Elementary

**Monday, March 6**  
**9:00-11:30**  
Central Elementary

**Tuesday, March 7**  
**12:30-3:00**  
Meadowbrook Elementary



**Wednesday, March 8**  
**9:00-11:30**  
Moody Elementary

**Thursday, March 2**  
**12:30-3:00**  
Birchland Elementary

**Tuesday, March 7**  
**9:00-11:30**  
Irvine Elementary

**Wednesday, March 8**  
**12:30-3:00**  
Mundy Road Elementary



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



## PARENTING IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY – NOT THE WAY MOM AND DAD DID IT

### **UNDERSTANDING DEPRESSION** **IN YOUR KIDS**

#### **When:**

- Thursday Feb 2, 2017
- Refreshments at 6:00pm
- Presentation from 6:30-8:30pm

#### **Where:**

- Douglas College
- 1250 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam

#### **Speakers:**

- Dr. Ann Turner, Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice
- Parent with lived experience
- Youth with lived experience

**~ A MUST ATTEND FOR ALL PARENTS**

**This event is FREE but space is limited, so register early!**

**Register at:** <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/understanding-depression-in-your-kids-tickets-28583863104>

*This FREE speaker series is brought to you by the Tri-Cities Local Action Team/Fraser Northwest Division of Family Practice as part of a provincial Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use (CYMHSU) Collaborative (a partnership of Doctors of BC and the BC government).*

# Parents as Partners in Prevention

## Preventing, Understanding and Responding to Youth Substance-Use

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) presents *Parents as Partners in Prevention*, information sessions which are open to all parents. While school-based professionals continue to provide substance-use prevention support for students, effective prevention strategies require partnership between school, home and prevention support services.



To that end, we strongly encourage you to attend one of these informative sessions to provide you with strategies to help your child/youth make healthy and safe choices. For more information please contact your school administrator or school counselor.

*These information sessions are designed for an adult audience, and are not intended for children.*

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The substances of choice: What are they? What are their risks?
- Understanding and responding to "First-use" risks as youth transition to secondary school.
- Parental influence: How to support safe and healthy choices for youth.
- How to recognize and respond to a "drug-curious" youth.
- How to recognize and respond to a youth who may be "Drug-Active."
- Social Media: Where are children and youth getting their information?

### PRESENTATION DATES

Heritage Woods Secondary	Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 7 p.m.
Riverside Secondary	Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 7 p.m.
Centennial Secondary	Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 7 p.m.
Port Moody Secondary	Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 7 p.m.
Dr. Charles Best Secondary	Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 7 p.m.
Terry Fox Secondary	Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 7 p.m.
Gleneagle Secondary	Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 7 p.m.

### PRESENTERS

**Robb McGirr** is an addictions counselor at Front-Line Prevention Services specializing in school-based prevention and early intervention. He is a consultant for the school district working under the direction of the district's student wellness and safety portfolio. Robb has a long history with both our schools and community having worked as a Port Moody police officer for 20 years, and a youth substance-use prevention specialist for the last 11 years.

**SHARE Family & Community Services** is a non-profit agency that provides a wide variety of programs and services in the community. SHARE is the primary resource for substance use prevention and intervention in the Tri-Cities, Belcarra and Anmore. There are two health promotion facilitators that have many years of experience. They provide evidence-based, leading edge prevention programs in the schools throughout the year. The SHARE youth substance use program also have clinical counsellors who provide free individual counselling services for youth aged 12 to 24.



To learn more visit: [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)



## **Dogs on Porter School Property**

We recognize and appreciate that dogs are significant and loved members of some of our families and that parents and caregivers, often during the morning walk to school and the afternoon walk back home, exercise their dogs.

We need to balance this with the acknowledgement that not all of our school community members (students and/or adults) are comfortable with dogs.

Therefore, please, when dropping off and picking up your child:

- ◆ **Other than school drop-off and school pick-up of students, dogs are not to be on school property**
- ◆ **ALL dogs MUST be leashed AT ALL TIMES and under the direct control of the owner**
- ◆ **DO NOT tie up your dog and leave unattended at any time**
- ◆ **ALL dogs MUST remain outside the school**
- ◆ **Dogs and their owners MUST NOT block entrances to and exits from our school**
- ◆ **Please keep your dog well away from our school entrances/exits**
- ◆ **Please keep your dog well away from our school playgrounds**
- ◆ **DO NOT wait with your dog on or next to paths where students enter and exit our school property**
- ◆ **Dogs should NEVER be off leash**
- ◆ **Dog owners MUST clean up their dog's feces and any residue**
- ◆ **Please report any concerns to the office**

While it is difficult for school staff to supervise school property usage during the evenings and weekends, the City of Coquitlam Bylaw Office has been contacted to help monitor school grounds during these times.

The staff at Porter Elementary School is working hard to ensure a safe and caring school environment and with your cooperation we hope to continue to work with all of our community members.



## **PORTER STREET ELEMENTARY 2016/2017 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Schools Re-open after Christmas Break	Tuesday, January 3, 2017
BC Family Day	Monday, February 13, 2017
Non-Instructional Day (Common District Day)	Friday, February 24, 2017
Schools Close for Spring Break (Last Day in Session)	Friday, March 10, 2017
Spring Break Period	Sat Mar 11 – Sun Mar 26, 2017
Schools Re-Open after Spring Break	Monday, March 27, 2017
Good Friday	Friday, April 14, 2017
Easter Monday	Monday, April 17, 2017
Non-Instructional Day (Common District Day)	Friday, April 21, 2017
Non-Instructional Day (2nd of 2 school-based)	Friday, May 19, 2017
Victoria Day	Monday, May 22, 2017
Last Day of School for all students	Thursday, June 29, 2017
Administrative Day	Friday, June 30, 2017

**Principal**

Mr. D. Passaglia  
604-936-4296  
dpassaglia@sd43.bc.ca

**Secretary**

Mrs. Kathy Sather  
604-936-4296  
ksather@sd43.bc.ca

**Assistant Superintendent**

Mr. Carey Chute  
604-939-9201  
cchute@sd43.bc.ca

**Liaison Trustee**

Ms. Diane Sowden  
Phone: 604-939-8973  
dsowden@sd43.bc.ca

### *'Children...Learn What They Live'*

*If a child lives with criticism,  
he/she learns to condemn.  
If a child lives with hostility,  
he/she learns to fight.  
If a child lives with ridicule,  
he/she learns to be shy.  
If a child lives with shame,  
he/she learns to feel guilty.  
If a child lives with tolerance,  
he/she learns to be patient.  
If a child lives with encouragement,  
he/she learns confidence.  
If a child lives with praise,  
he/she learns to appreciate.  
If a child lives with fairness,  
he/she learns justice.  
If a child lives with security,  
he/she learns to have faith.  
If a child lives with approval,  
he/she learns to like himself/herself.  
If a child lives with acceptance and  
friendship,  
he/she learns to find love in the world.*

*Author Unknown*

### *'What All Children Want Their Parents to Know...'*

*Teach me to love and care for myself  
Through your positive example.  
I will learn much more from what you do  
Than from anything you could ever say.*

*Notice me often,  
And take joy in my existence,  
So that I may grow up to feel special  
And know that I am loved.*

*Listen to me  
With an open ear and a loving heart  
So that I learn to understand my feelings  
And trust that my needs will be heard.*

*Play with me often.  
Let down your guard and be carefree.  
The memories will last long,  
And our connection even longer.*

*Focus on what I'm doing right,  
And tell me when you appreciate me,  
So that I learn to feel worthy  
And motivated to do even more.*

*Tell me more about your life,  
Your hopes, dreams, and successes,  
So that I can come to know you as a person  
And can call you my friend  
As well as my parent.*

*1996 Julia Loomans and her daughter Diane Loomans*