



Superintendent's News & Events Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2015

Learning for a Lifetime Serving the communities of Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody

1. **Several Riverside Secondary students** were accepted into and attended their first lecture as part of **SFU's math program, "A Taste of Pi."** The program is a monthly series of talks organized by SFU's Mathematics Department with support from the Faculty of Science for students in grades 10/11 who have talent and strong interests in these areas.
2. **Former Riverside Secondary student, Kyle Carragher,** will be competing in the **World Trampoline Gymnastics Championships** as a part of the men's Double Mini-Trampoline team. The top eight will represent Canada in the Olympics.
3. On November 2 and 3, **district-wide New Curriculum and Communicating Student Learning sessions** took place with Dr. Leyton Schnellert. These sessions were designed to build capacity within schools to support the ongoing implementation of the redesigned curriculum.
4. **Kwayhqitlum Middle School** students helped remove **8.5 cubic meters of English Ivy from Coquitlam River Park** on November 3, with the Lower Mainland Green Team.
5. On November 6, an **update letter from the Board Chair on an elementary school in the Smiling Creek neighbourhood** was emailed to key stakeholders, posted to our district website and shared through our social media channels.
6. The **16th Annual Red Serge Classic Senior Girls' Volleyball Tournament** took place at Riverside Secondary School on November 6 and 7. Of the ten teams participating, SD43's **Riverside Rapids** and **Terry Fox Ravens** competed, ranking 4th and 9th respectively.
7. **Riverside Secondary teacher, Mrs. Teena Della,** has **earned a \$1700.00 grant** from the Ninety-Nines Women's Aviation Club. The grant will be used for the flying club that she founded.
8. **Inquiry Hub students, Brandon Mayhew & Josh Unrau** have **created a new app** that use a phone's Bluetooth for attendance at school.
9. **Riverside Secondary student, Vlad Pomogaev,** spent two years designing and building a **smartphone controlled electric skateboard** that can reach speeds of up to 32km/h.
10. **Education Minister Mike Bernier** recently announced 109 school improvement projects chosen for funding as part of the **Province's Routine Capital Program.** In SD43, **Anmore Elementary** will receive \$220,000 to upgrade its power generator and **Gleneagle Secondary** will receive \$498,000 to improve its heating/ventilation system.



11. At **Inquiry Hub Secondary** on November 10, students, teachers, parents, community members, SD43 representatives and **special guest, Jan Unwin, Superintendent of Graduation and Student Transitions with BC Ministries of Education and Advanced Education** gathered to watch student presentations. In addition, a student-created mural was unveiled, funded by a Spirit of Coquitlam Grant, as well as a 'Little Free Library' that was also created by students with funds from a grant. Inquiry Hub will be having an **Open House December 2 at 7 p.m.**
12. **Students from Pinetree Secondary's Environmental Club** helped remove **6 cubic meters of invasive species and 10 pounds of garbage from Coquitlam River Park** on November 15 with the Lower Mainland Green Team.
13. **Pitt River Middle School** has been awarded a **Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia Merit Award from the Architectural Institute of BC**. The school was highlighted for its design that allows for flexible learning spaces that support 21st century learning principles, and its use of natural light, wood and energy-savings strategies making it an environmentally sustainable facility and extraordinary learning environment.
14. Many SD43 schools will be participating in this year's global **Hour of Code** event during Computer Science Education Week, **December 7-13**. The campaign goal is for tens of millions of students to try an hour of code and show that anybody can learn the basics.
15. The first semi-annual **Spoken Word Festival** for Grade 9-12 students will be held at Terry Fox Secondary, **Friday, December 11, 2015, 12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.** The second semi-annual Spoken Word Festival is scheduled for May 19, 2016 at Centennial Secondary (still to be confirmed).

