

Professional Development

Workshop Booklet

February 27, 2026
Riverside Secondary

*Every Learner
Every Story*



Professional Development Day
for Coquitlam Teachers



Click below for:

Day's Schedule

**Important
Information**

*We acknowledge that the Coquitlam Teachers' Association operates on the traditional ancestral and unceded territory of the *kʷikʷəƛ̓əm* (Kwikwetlem First Nation). We thank the *kʷikʷəƛ̓əm* who continue to live on these lands and care for them, along with the waters and all that is above and below.*

- Day's Schedule -

8:30 a.m.

Morning Coffee – Publishers - Vendors

9:00 a.m.

Session A or Session C (First Half)

10:30 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m.

Welcome - Opening Remarks - Keynote Speaker

(Accompanied by Sign Language Interpreter)

12:15 p.m.

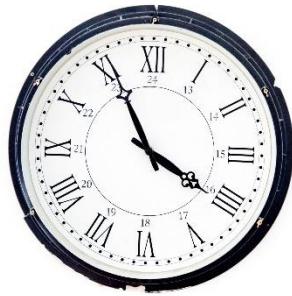
Break

1:00 p.m.

Session B or Session C (Second Half)

2:30/45 p.m.

**Collegial Conversations & CTA Local Bargaining
Information Session**



*** Locations * and * Schedules * may vary -
please check your information carefully**

Coffee/Tea sponsored by



Coffee and tea will be provided at
Riverside Secondary- *Please bring your own lunch*

We suggest bringing your own water bottle and a
mug to cut down on waste and make refills easier



- Workshops by Grade Level -

Levels as identified by workshop facilitators/presenters

Not Grade Specific

[A- Climbing the Mountain: An Educator's Guide - 360 to Teacher Reconciliation in the Classroom -KEYNOTE](#)

[A- AI in the Classroom: Real Teachers in a Changing World](#)

[A- Bringing Fibre Arts Into Your Classroom](#)

[A- Breathwork and Yoga](#)

[A- Designing for Inclusion With Canva](#)

[A- Introduction to Canva](#)

[A- Kwikwetlem Nation Meet the Nation](#)

[A- Learn to Needle Felt](#)

[A- The Power of Process: A Creative Approach to Well-Being in the Classroom](#)

[A- Understanding Indigiqueer](#)

[A- Understanding and Supporting Students with FASD](#)

[A- The Well Teacher](#)

[A- Writing to Heal Us](#)

[B- Climbing the Mountain: An Educator's Guide - 360 to Teacher Reconciliation in the Classroom - KEYNOTE](#)

[B- Circle Work](#)

[B- The Ethical Curriculum in the Age of GenAI](#)

[B- Kwikwetlem Nation Meet the Nation](#)

[B- Literacy to Life: Making Meaningful Connections Between Literacy, STEM, Inquiry and Project-Based Learning](#)

[B- Plant Walk](#)

[B- Re-building Relational Responsibility with our Plant Relatives](#)

[B- Streamlining Reporting Using Microsoft 365 Tools Part 2](#)

[C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

[C- Budget-Friendly Needle Felting: Fun For Every Age](#)

[C- Supporting the Developing Brain: Understanding Complex Trauma, Attachment and Emotion Coaching](#)

Kindergarten

- [A- Building Bright Beginnings – Getting a Jump Start on Knowing Our Kindergarten Families](#)
- [A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation](#)
- [A- Elementary Music Teachers – Sharing Session](#)
- [A- The Inclusive Outdoor Classroom](#)
- [A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)
- [A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)
- [A- Omnikin and Minor PE Games](#)
- [A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting](#)
- [A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds](#)
- [B- Bringing the Magic of Canva to Your Classroom](#)
- [B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with Physical Literacy](#)
- [B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach](#)
- [B- Outdoor Education for Beginners](#)
- [B- Printing Like a Pro! and Fine Motor in the Classroom](#)
- [B- Small Groups for Big Reading Success](#)
- [B- Southside Community Collaboration](#)
- [B- Working With English Language Learners](#)
- [B- Yoga Tools cancel for Teachers](#)
- [C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

Primary

- [A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation](#)
- [A- Digital Literacy and AI](#)
- [A- Elementary Music Teachers – Sharing Session](#)
- [A- The Inclusive Outdoor Classroom](#)
- [A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)
- [A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)
- [A- Omnikin and Minor PE Games](#)
- [A- Physical Literacy in the Classroom and Beyond](#)
- [A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting](#)

[A- Soapstone Carving](#)

[A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds](#)

[B- BC SPCA in the Classroom: Incorporating Animal-Themed Lessons Across the Curriculum](#)

[B- Bringing the Magic of Canva to Your Classroom](#)

[B- Choir Leadership: Let's Start at the Very Beginning](#)

[B- Health in Orbit](#)

[B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with Physical Literacy](#)

[B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach](#)

[B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom](#)

[B- Outdoor Education for Beginners](#)

[B- A Pacific NW Coast Experience: Part 2! A Coast Salish Minecraft World Combining Indigenous Teachings and STEAM](#)

[B- Printing Like a Pro! and Fine Motor in the Classroom](#)

[B- Small Groups for Big Reading Success](#)

[B- Soapstone Carving](#)

[B- Southside Community Collaboration](#)

[B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum](#)

[B- Working With English Language Learners](#)

[B- ~~Yoga Tools~~ for Teachers](#)

[C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

Intermediate

[A- Building Understanding of Fractions and Decimals](#)

[A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation](#)

[A- Creating an Inclusive Math Class](#)

[A- Digital Literacy and AI](#)

[A- Elementary Music Teachers – Sharing Session](#)

[A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research But Were Afraid to Research](#)

[A- Gifted Identification/ CCAT Training for LSTs](#)

[A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)

[A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)

[A- Omnikin and Minor PE Games](#)

[A- Physical Literacy in the Classroom and Beyond](#)

[**A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting**](#)

[**A- Soapstone Carving**](#)

[**A- Trading Game**](#)

[**A- Understanding, Expressing, and Maintaining Boundaries**](#)

[**A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds**](#)

[**A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools**](#)

[**B- BC SPCA in the Classroom: Incorporating Animal-Themed Lessons Across the Curriculum**](#)

[**B- Bringing the Magic of Canva to Your Classroom**](#)

[**B- Built for the Wild: Exploring BC Animals Through STEAM And Indigenous Ways of Knowing**](#)

[**B- Choir Leadership: Let's Start at the Very Beginning**](#)

[**B- DIY Bee House**](#)

[**B- Dungeons and Deskmates**](#)

[**B- Flash in a Block: Crafting Authentic Stories in Real Time**](#)

[**B- Health in Orbit**](#)

[**B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with Physical Literacy**](#)

[**B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach**](#)

[**B- Introduction to Cyanotype Printing**](#)

[**B- Meet Me at the Morgue \(The Newspaper Morgue, that is\)**](#)

[**B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom**](#)

[**B- The Outdoor Classroom: Building Consistent Routines and Expectations**](#)

[**B- Outdoor Education for Beginners**](#)

[**B- A Pacific NW Coast Experience: Part 2! A Coast Salish Minecraft World Combining Indigenous Teachings and STEAM**](#)

[**B- Screenagers: Next Chapter → Addressing Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age**](#)

[**B- Small Groups for Big Reading Success**](#)

[**B- Soapstone Carving**](#)

[**B- Southside Community Collaboration**](#)

[**B- Teaching Core French? Start Here!**](#)

[**B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum**](#)

[**B- Turning Your Classroom into the House of Commons**](#)

[**B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools**](#)

[**B- Working With English Language Learners**](#)

[**B- ~~Yoga Tools~~ for Teachers**](#)

[**C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again**](#)

Middle

[A- Branching Out: How to Start Your Own Outdoor Ed Program](#)

[A- Building Blocks of Connection](#)

[A- Building Understanding of Fractions and Decimals](#)

[A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation](#)

[A- Circle Up](#)

[A- A Conversation and Collab for Middle School Computer Explorations](#)

[A- Creating an Inclusive Math Class](#)

[A- Developing Oral Participation Strategies in French Immersion Classrooms](#)

[A- Digital Literacy and AI](#)

[A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research But Were Afraid to Research](#)

[A- Gifted Identification/ CCAT Training for LSTs](#)

[A- Graphic Design with Affinity](#)

[A- Instrument Repair 101](#)

[A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)

[A- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom](#)

[A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)

[A- Omnikin and Minor PE Games](#)

[A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting](#)

[A- Soapstone Carving](#)

[A- Sport Education Model – Everyone Has a Place on the Team!](#)

[A- Trading Game](#)

[A- Understanding, Expressing, and Maintaining Boundaries](#)

[A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds](#)

[A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[B- Beyond the Basics: Intermediate Applications of AI for Educators](#)

[B- Branching Out: How to Start Your Own Outdoor Ed Program](#)

[B- Bringing the Magic of Canva to Your Classroom](#)

[B- Built for the Wild: Exploring BC Animals Through STEAM And Indigenous Ways of Knowing](#)

[B- Choir Leadership: Let's Start at the Very Beginning](#)

[B- DIY Bee House](#)

[B- Dungeons and Deskmates](#)

[B- Empowering Student Voice Through Digital Storytelling](#)

[B- Flash in a Block: Crafting Authentic Stories in Real Time](#)

[B- Health in Orbit](#)

[B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with Physical Literacy](#)

[B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach](#)

[B- Introduction to Cyanotype Printing](#)

[B- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom](#)

[B- Meet Me at the Morgue \(The Newspaper Morgue, that is\)](#)

[B- Middle School Music Sharing Session](#)

[B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom](#)

[B- The Outdoor Classroom: Building Consistent Routines and Expectations](#)

[B- A Pacific NW Coast Experience: Part 2! A Coast Salish Minecraft World Combining Indigenous Teachings and STEAM](#)

[B- Screenagers: Next Chapter → Addressing Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age](#)

[B- Soapstone Carving](#)

[B- Southside Community Collaboration](#)

[B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking](#)

[B- Supporting Striving Readers in Middle School](#)

[B- Teaching Core French? Start Here!](#)

[B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum](#)

[B- Teaching the Holocaust: New Resources and Strategies for the BC Curriculum](#)

[B- Technology Ed Discussion and Share](#)

[B- Transformative Curriculum for Change](#)

[B- Turning Your Classroom into the House of Commons](#)

[B- Weaving Wellness into the Classroom](#)

[B- Why and How Math: Hands-On Visual Math Teaching Strategies for Middle School Teachers Who Are Secretly a Bit Afraid of Math](#)

[B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[B- Working With English Language Learners](#)

[C- 3D Design Using Tinkercad and Fusion 360](#)

[C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

[C- Crosspoints in the Classroom: Practical Tools for Teaching Drama](#)

Secondary

[A- Building Blocks of Connection](#)

[A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation](#)

[A- Circle Up](#)

[A- Copilot 13+ : AI at THEIR Fingertips](#)

[A- Developing Oral Participation Strategies in French Immersion Classrooms](#)

[A- Digital Literacy and AI](#)

[A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research But Were Afraid to Research](#)

[A- Graphic Design with Affinity](#)

[A- Instrument Repair 101](#)

[A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)

[A- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom](#)

[A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting](#)

[A- Soapstone Carving](#)

[A- Sport Education Model – Everyone Has a Place on the Team!](#)

[A- Teaching All Learners in Secondary Classes](#)

[A- This is English? A Different Way to Experience English Language Learning](#)

[A- Trading Game](#)

[A- Understanding, Expressing, and Maintaining Boundaries](#)

[A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds](#)

[A- Who Tells the Story? Unpacking Historical Narratives in BC History](#)

[A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[B- Beyond the Basics: Intermediate Applications of AI for Educators](#)

[B- Bringing the Magic of Canva to Your Classroom](#)

[B- Choir Leadership: Let's Start at the Very Beginning](#)

[B- DIY Bee House](#)

[B- Dungeons and Deskmates](#)

[B- Empowering Student Voice Through Digital Storytelling](#)

[B- Flash in a Block: Crafting Authentic Stories in Real Time](#)

[B- Health in Orbit](#)

[B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach](#)

[B- Introduction to Cyanotype Printing](#)

[B- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom](#)

- [**B- Meet Me at the Morgue \(The Newspaper Morgue, that is\)**](#)
- [**B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom**](#)
- [**B- The Outdoor Classroom: Building Consistent Routines and Expectations**](#)
- [**B- A Pacific NW Coast Experience: Part 2! A Coast Salish Minecraft World Combining Indigenous Teachings and STEAM**](#)
- [**B- Screenagers: Next Chapter → Addressing Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age**](#)
- [**B- Soapstone Carving**](#)
- [**B- Southside Community Collaboration**](#)
- [**B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking**](#)
- [**B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum**](#)
- [**B- Teaching the Holocaust: New Resources and Strategies for the BC Curriculum**](#)
- [**B- Technology Ed Discussion and Share**](#)
- [**B- Transformative Curriculum for Change**](#)
- [**B- Turning Your Classroom into the House of Commons**](#)
- [**B- Weaving Wellness into the Classroom**](#)
- [**B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools**](#)
- [**B- Working With English Language Learners**](#)
- [**C- 3D Design Using Tinkercad and Fusion 360**](#)
- [**C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again**](#)
- [**C- Crosspoints in the Classroom: Practical Tools for Teaching Drama**](#)

Adult

- [**A- Building Blocks of Connection**](#)
- [**A- Graphic Design with Affinity**](#)
- [**A- Soapstone Carving**](#)
- [**A- This is English? A Different Way to Experience English Language Learning**](#)
- [**A- Understanding, Expressing, and Maintaining Boundaries**](#)
- [**A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools**](#)
- [**B- Beyond the Basics: Intermediate Applications of AI for Educators**](#)
- [**B- DIY Bee House**](#)
- [**B- Flash in a Block: Crafting Authentic Stories in Real Time**](#)
- [**B- Meet Me at the Morgue \(The Newspaper Morgue, that is\)**](#)
- [**B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom**](#)

B- Soapstone Carving

B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking

B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools

C- Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada Tips and Techniques

~~CANCELLED~~

Teachers

D- Local Bargaining Information Session

- Workshops by Subject -

Subjects as identified by workshop facilitators/presenters

Cross-Curricular (i.e. All/General Subjects)

- [A- Climbing the Mountain: An Educator's Guide - 360 to Teacher Reconciliation in the Classroom - KEYNOTE](#)
- [A- AI in the Classroom: Real Teachers in a Changing World](#)
- [A- Branching Out: How to Start Your Own Outdoor Ed Program](#)
- [A- Building Blocks of Connection](#)
- [A- Circle Up](#)
- [A- Copilot 13+ : AI at THEIR Fingertips](#)
- [A- Designing for Inclusion With Canva](#)
- [A- Digital Literacy and AI](#)
- [A- Graphic Design with Affinity](#)
- [A- The Inclusive Outdoor Classroom](#)
- [A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)
- [A- The Power of Process: A Creative Approach to Well-Being in the Classroom](#)
- [A- Teaching All Learners in Secondary Classes](#)
- [A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)
- [B- Climbing the Mountain: An Educator's Guide - 360 to Teacher Reconciliation in the Classroom – KEYNOTE](#)
- [B- BC SPCA in the Classroom: Incorporating Animal-Themed Lessons Across the Curriculum](#)
- [B- Beyond the Basics: Intermediate Applications of AI for Educators](#)
- [B- Branching Out: How to Start Your Own Outdoor Ed Program](#)
- [B- Bringing the Magic of Canva to Your Classroom](#)
- [B- Built for the Wild: Exploring BC Animals Through STEAM And Indigenous Ways of Knowing](#)
- [B- Circle Work](#)
- [B- Dungeons and Deskmates](#)
- [B- Empowering Student Voice Through Digital Storytelling](#)
- [B- The Ethical Curriculum in the Age of GenAI](#)
- [B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with Physical Literacy](#)
- [B- Printing Like a Pro! and Fine Motor in the Classroom](#)
- [B- Southside Community Collaboration](#)
- [B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking](#)
- [B- Streamlining Reporting Using Microsoft 365 Tools Part 2](#)

[B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum](#)

[B- Transformative Curriculum for Change](#)

[B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

[C- Budget-Friendly Needle Felting: Fun For Every Age](#)

[D- Local Bargaining Information Session](#)

Applied Design, Skills & Technologies (ADST)

[A- Designing for Inclusion With Canva](#)

[A- Digital Literacy and AI](#)

[A- Graphic Design with Affinity](#)

[A- Introduction to Canva](#)

[A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[B- Health in Orbit](#)

[B- Meet Me at the Morgue \(The Newspaper Morgue, that is\)](#)

[B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[C- 3D Design Using Tinkercad and Fusion 360](#)

Artificial Intelligence

[A- AI in the Classroom: Real Teachers in a Changing World](#)

[A- Copilot 13+ : AI at THEIR Fingertips](#)

[A- Digital Literacy and AI](#)

[B- Health in Orbit](#)

Arts (Visual & Performing)

[A- Bringing Fibre Arts Into Your Classroom](#)

[A- Building Blocks of Connection](#)

[A- Elementary Music Teachers – Sharing Session](#)

[A- Learn to Needle Felt](#)

[A- The Power of Process: A Creative Approach to Well-Being in the Classroom](#)

[A- Soapstone Carving](#)

[A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds](#)
[B- Choir Leadership: Let's Start at the Very Beginning](#)
[B- Introduction to Cyanotype Printing](#)
[B- Middle School Music Sharing Session](#)
[B- Re-building Relational Responsibility with our Plant Relatives](#)
[B- Soapstone Carving](#)
[C- Budget-Friendly Needle Felting: Fun For Every Age](#)
[C- Crosspoints in the Classroom: Practical Tools for Teaching Drama](#)

Assessment

[B- Streamlining Reporting Using Microsoft 365 Tools Part 2](#)

Core Competencies

[A- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom](#)
[A- Physical Literacy in the Classroom and Beyond](#)
[B- Printing Like a Pro! and Fine Motor in the Classroom](#)
[B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum](#)
[B- Transformative Curriculum for Change](#)

Counselling

[A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation](#)
[A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)
[A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting](#)
[B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach](#)

Early Learning

[A- Building Bright Beginnings – Getting a Jump Start on Knowing Our Kindergarten Families](#)

EAL/ELL

- [**A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research But Were Afraid to Research**](#)
- [**A- This is English? A Different Way to Experience English Language Learning**](#)
- [**B- Working With English Language Learners**](#)
- [**C- Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada Tips and Techniques**](#)

CANCELLED

English Language Arts

- [**A- Designing for Inclusion With Canva**](#)
- [**A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research But Were Afraid to Research**](#)
- [**A- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom**](#)
- [**A- Physical Literacy in the Classroom and Beyond**](#)
- [**A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds**](#)
- [**A- Writing to Heal Us**](#)
- [**B- Empowering Student Voice Through Digital Storytelling**](#)
- [**B- Flash in a Block: Crafting Authentic Stories in Real Time**](#)
- [**B- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom**](#)
- [**B- Meet Me at the Morgue \(The Newspaper Morgue, that is\)**](#)
- [**B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking**](#)
- [**B- Teaching the Holocaust: New Resources and Strategies for the BC Curriculum**](#)

French Immersion/ Core French

- [**A- Developing Oral Participation Strategies in French Immersion Classrooms**](#)
- [**B- Teaching Core French? Start Here!**](#)

Gifted

- [**A- Gifted Identification/ CCAT Training for LSTs**](#)

Humanities

- [**A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research But Were Afraid to Research**](#)
- [**B- Meet Me at the Morgue \(The Newspaper Morgue, that is\)**](#)

Inclusive Education

[A- AI in the Classroom: Real Teachers in a Changing World](#)

[A- Bringing Fibre Arts Into Your Classroom](#)

[A- Building Bright Beginnings – Getting a Jump Start on Knowing Our Kindergarten Families](#)

[A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation](#)

[A- Designing for Inclusion With Canva](#)

[A- Gifted Identification/ CCAT Training for LSTs](#)

[A- The Inclusive Outdoor Classroom](#)

[A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)

[A- Learn to Needle Felt](#)

[A- The Power of Process: A Creative Approach to Well-Being in the Classroom](#)

[A- Understanding and Supporting Students with FASD](#)

[A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[B- Built for the Wild: Exploring BC Animals Through STEAM And Indigenous Ways of Knowing](#)

[B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach](#)

[B- Small Groups for Big Reading Success](#)

[B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum](#)

[B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

Indigenous Education

[A- AI in the Classroom: Real Teachers in a Changing World](#)

[A- Kwikwetlem Nation Meet the Nation](#)

[A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)

[A- Trading Game](#)

[A- Understanding Indigiqueer](#)

[B- Built for the Wild: Exploring BC Animals Through STEAM And Indigenous Ways of Knowing](#)

[B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with Physical Literacy](#)

[B- Kwikwetlem Nation Meet the Nation](#)

[B- A Pacific NW Coast Experience: Part 2! A Coast Salish Minecraft World Combining Indigenous Teachings and STEAM](#)

Learning Support Services

[A- Building Understanding of Fractions and Decimals](#)

[A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)

[A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting](#)

[A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach](#)

[B- Small Groups for Big Reading Success](#)

[B- Transformative Curriculum for Change](#)

Library

[B- Literacy to Life: Making Meaningful Connections Between Literacy, STEM, Inquiry and Project-Based Learning](#)

Literacy

[A- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom](#)

[A- Physical Literacy in the Classroom and Beyond](#)

[A- Teaching All Learners in Secondary Classes](#)

[A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds](#)

[A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

[A- Writing to Heal Us](#)

[B- Flash in a Block: Crafting Authentic Stories in Real Time](#)

[B- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom](#)

[B- Literacy to Life: Making Meaningful Connections Between Literacy, STEM, Inquiry and Project-Based Learning](#)

[B- Small Groups for Big Reading Success](#)

[B- Supporting Striving Readers in Middle School](#)

[B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools](#)

Mathematics

[A- Building Understanding of Fractions and Decimals](#)

[A- Creating an Inclusive Math Class](#)

[A- Physical Literacy in the Classroom and Beyond](#)

[B- Why and How Math: Hands-On Visual Math Teaching Strategies for Middle School Teachers Who Are Secretly a Bit Afraid of Math](#)

Media

[A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research But Were Afraid to Research](#)

[B- Screenagers: Next Chapter → Addressing Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age](#)

Mental Health

[A- The Power of Process: A Creative Approach to Well-Being in the Classroom](#)

[A- The Well Teacher](#)

[A- Writing to Heal Us](#)

[B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom](#)

[B- Screenagers: Next Chapter → Addressing Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age](#)

[B- Weaving Wellness into the Classroom](#)

[C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

[C- Supporting the Developing Brain: Understanding Complex Trauma, Attachment and Emotion Coaching](#)

Music

[A- Elementary Music Teachers – Sharing Session](#)

[A- Instrument Repair 101](#)

[B- Choir Leadership: Let's Start at the Very Beginning](#)

[B- Middle School Music Sharing Session](#)

Outdoor Education

[A- Branching Out: How to Start Your Own Outdoor Ed Program](#)

[A- The Inclusive Outdoor Classroom](#)

[B- Branching Out: How to Start Your Own Outdoor Ed Program](#)

[B- DIY Bee House](#)

[B- The Outdoor Classroom: Building Consistent Routines and Expectations](#)

[B- Outdoor Education for Beginners](#)

[B- Plant Walk](#)

[B- Re-building Relational Responsibility with our Plant Relatives](#)

Physical & Health Education

[A- Breathwork and Yoga](#)

[A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)

[A- Omnikin and Minor PE Games](#)

[A- Physical Literacy in the Classroom and Beyond](#)

[A- Sport Education Model – Everyone Has a Place on the Team!](#)

[B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with Physical Literacy](#)

[B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom](#)

[B- Screenagers: Next Chapter → Addressing Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age](#)

[B- Transformative Curriculum for Change](#)

[B- Yoga ~~Tools~~ for Teachers](#)

Reading

[A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds](#)

[B- Small Groups for Big Reading Success](#)

[B- Supporting Striving Readers in Middle School](#)

Science

[A- Trading Game](#)

[B- DIY Bee House](#)

[B- Health in Orbit](#)

[B- Plant Walk](#)

[B- Re-building Relational Responsibility with our Plant Relatives](#)

[B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking](#)

Sharing Sessions

[A- A Conversation and Collab for Middle School Computer Explorations](#)

[A- Elementary Music Teachers – Sharing Session](#)

[A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting](#)

[A- Teaching All Learners in Secondary Classes](#)

[B- Middle School Music Sharing Session](#)

[B- Southside Community Collaboration](#)

[B- Technology Ed Discussion and Share](#)

Social Emotional-Learning

[A- AI in the Classroom: Real Teachers in a Changing World](#)

[A- Breathwork and Yoga](#)

[A- Building Blocks of Connection](#)

[A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation](#)

[A- Circle Up](#)

[A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning](#)

[A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)

[A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting](#)

[A- Understanding, Expressing, and Maintaining Boundaries](#)

[A- The Well Teacher](#)

[A- Writing to Heal Us](#)

[B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with Physical Literacy](#)

[B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach](#)

[B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom](#)

[B- Screenagers: Next Chapter → Addressing Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age](#)

[B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum](#)

[B- Transformative Curriculum for Change](#)

[B- Weaving Wellness into the Classroom](#)

[B- Yoga ~~Tools~~ for Teachers](#)

[C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

[C- Budget-Friendly Needle Felting: Fun For Every Age](#)

[C- Supporting the Developing Brain: Understanding Complex Trauma, Attachment and Emotion Coaching](#)

SOGI

[A- Understanding Indigiqueer](#)

Social Studies

[A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research But Were Afraid to Research](#)

[A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners](#)

[A- Trading Game](#)

[A- Who Tells the Story? Unpacking Historical Narratives in BC History](#)

[B- Dungeons and Deskmates](#)

[B- Meet Me at the Morgue \(The Newspaper Morgue, that is\)](#)

[B- A Pacific NW Coast Experience: Part 2! A Coast Salish Minecraft World Combining Indigenous Teachings and STEAM](#)

[B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking](#)

[B- Teaching the Holocaust: New Resources and Strategies for the BC Curriculum](#)

[B- Transformative Curriculum for Change](#)

[B- Turning Your Classroom into the House of Commons](#)

STEM/STEAM

[A- A Conversation and Collab for Middle School Computer Explorations](#)

[A- Designing for Inclusion With Canva](#)

[A- Digital Literacy and AI](#)

[A- Introduction to Canva](#)

[A- The Power of Process: A Creative Approach to Well-Being in the Classroom](#)

[A- Soapstone Carving](#)

[B- Built for the Wild: Exploring BC Animals Through STEAM And Indigenous Ways of Knowing](#)

[B- DIY Bee House](#)

[B- Dungeons and Deskmates](#)

[B- Health in Orbit](#)

[B- Literacy to Life: Making Meaningful Connections Between Literacy, STEM, Inquiry and Project-Based Learning](#)

[B- A Pacific NW Coast Experience: Part 2! A Coast Salish Minecraft World Combining Indigenous Teachings and STEAM](#)

[B- Soapstone Carving](#)

[C- 3D Design Using Tinkercad and Fusion 360](#)

Teaching Skills

[B- Streamlining Reporting Using Microsoft 365 Tools Part 2](#)

[C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again](#)

Teacher Wellness

[A- The Well Teacher](#)

[B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom](#)

Tech. Ed.

B- Technology Ed Discussion and Share

Technology

A- A Conversation and Collab for Middle School Computer Explorations

A- Designing for Inclusion With Canva

A- Digital Literacy and AI

A- Graphic Design with Affinity

A- Introduction to Canva

A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools

B- Health in Orbit

B- Meet Me at the Morgue (The Newspaper Morgue, that is)

B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking

B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools

C- 3D Design Using Tinkercad and Fusion 360

Session A Workshops – 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

A- Climbing the Mountain: An Educator's Guide - 360 to Teacher Reconciliation in the Classroom

- Niigaan Sinclair – KEYNOTE

All Levels

Cross-Curricular



Niigaan Sinclair is Anishinaabe from Peguis First Nation. He is an award-winning writer, editor and professor of Indigenous Studies at the University of Manitoba who was named by Maclean's Magazine in 2022 as one of the most influential people in Canada.

Niigaan is a multiple nominee of Canadian columnist of the year (winning in 2018) and his commentary appears weekly on multiple platforms across Canada. His first book *Wînipêk: Visions of Canada from an Indigenous Centre* was a national bestseller that won the 2024 Governor General Award for Non-fiction.

He is a former secondary school teacher who won the 2019 Peace Educator of the Year from the Peace and Justice Studies Association based at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Climbing the Mountain explores the many ways in which educators can bring reconciliation into the classroom in meaningful ways. It provides educators with essential resources which allow them to not only facilitate their own professional development, but also to create safer and more authentic learning spaces. The phrase Climbing the Mountain represents the long, challenging journey towards reconciliation, navigating the obstacles through persistent effort. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was completed in 2015, leaving the 94 calls to action for all Indigenous communities and Canada to implement together. How do we implement all of the calls to action in schools? Come spend time learning about 340 ways to implement the 94 calls to action in all facets of schooling and create an educational space for reconciliation to occur not just on one day but every day.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

A- AI in the Classroom: Real Teachers in a Changing World

- Terai Short & Lauren Rotzien

All levels

Cross-Curricular, Inclusive Education, Indigenous Pedagogy, SEL



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

Terai- Please bring “a laptop, activities, lessons, units, classroom profiles, questions, and concerns.”

Lauren and Terai are experienced educators passionate about inclusive, student-centered teaching. Lauren has nearly 30 years of experience in middle and secondary education, specializing in science and math, and believes in cross-curricular learning that connects ideas meaningfully. Terai has 15 years of experience in alternate education and currently mentors pre-service teachers at Simon Fraser University. Both value differentiation, relationships, and the BC Core Competencies as foundations for effective learning. They are exploring AI to enhance planning, feedback, and productivity, allowing them to focus on what matters most: creating equitable, engaging, and responsive learning environments where all students can thrive.

This 90-minute Pro-D workshop explores how the effective and intentional use of AI can help educators plan for all learners through differentiation and Universal Design for Learning. Participants will examine how AI supports planning, assessment, and resource creation while preserving valuable face-to-face time with students. We will also discuss strategies for crafting effective prompts and share real examples of how AI has enhanced our work in both K-12 and post-secondary education. By integrating AI thoughtfully, educators can meet students where they are, adapting instruction in real time while maintaining the human connections that define meaningful teaching and learning.

A- Branching Out: How to Start Your Own Outdoor Ed Program

- Brittany Litz

Middle

Cross-Curricular, Outdoor Education



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

OFFSITE SESSION: Taking place at HILLCREST MIDDLE

Brittany- Please wear “weather appropriate clothing and footwear.”

With a Master's in English and a minor in International & Global Education, Brittany brings 15 years of teaching experience in the district. After six years in a core middle school classroom, she spent the last five years leading an innovative Outdoor Education Exploration program at Hillcrest Middle. Passionate about the outdoors and its power to influence human connection and collaboration, Brittany is currently pursuing a Master's in Education Counselling.

Curious about taking learning beyond the classroom? This interactive workshop will guide you through the essentials of starting an outdoor education program at your middle school—where to begin, how to tackle logistics and challenges, and strategies for managing behavior in nature. We'll explore UDL for diverse learners, share creative unit ideas (orienteering, shelter building, fungi, and more), and experience a sample outdoor lesson in Mundy Park. Topics will flex based on participant interests and weather—so dress for the outdoors! An indoor space is available if needed. Come ready to collaborate, share, and spark new ideas.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

A- Breathwork and Yoga

- Natalia Kubiak

All levels

PHE, SEL



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

Natalia- Please bring “a yoga mat plus pen and paper if you wish to take notes.”

Natalia is a registered clinical counsellor with a love for active living. In addition to her Master of Education in Counselling she is a 200 Hour certified yoga teacher who loves to draw on her passion for activity into her daily work.

This workshop will be divided into two parts, it will begin with learning simple breathing and grounding techniques which can be easily incorporated into the classroom setting. These will include strategies such as lions breath, the five things sensory exercise, and more.

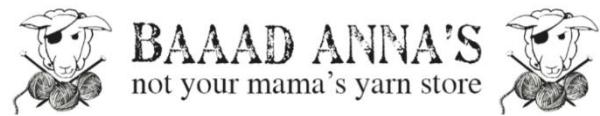
The second half will refill the teacher’s cup by guiding them through a one-hour hatha yoga practice.

A- Bringing Fibre Arts Into Your Classroom

- Paula Lindner- Baaad Anna's Yarn Store

All Levels

Arts, Inclusive Education, Tactile Hands-on Learning



***This workshop will be \$15 per participant, invoices will be sent out and must be paid before the day. All fibre arts materials will be included. Yellow forms cannot be used for reimbursement. ***

Paula is the owner of Baaad Anna's Yarn Store in East Vancouver, and Baaad Rabbit's Fibre Arts in New West. Braiding small business with community development, Paula aims to create a space where people come together and learn from each other, and have a sense of community while crafting, creating, and conspiring!

With the paradigm of hands-on tactile learning, Paula describes a variety of ways fibre arts can successfully be brought into a classroom with little prior skillset and at an accessible price. Teachers will learn how to find projects and online resources, how to source free and low-cost material, strategies to build skills into learning tools, whilst also enjoying a hands-on craft time during the session.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



A- Building Blocks of Connection

- Cydney Uffindell-Phillips - PoMo Arts

Middle - Adult

Cross-Curricular, Arts Education, Drama, SEL

Cydney – Please wear “comfortable clothes you can move in.”

Cydney is a movement coach and physical theatre director specializing in physicality as a tool to support character development and enhance narrative. Her international experience working on interdisciplinary productions gives her a unique insight into the diverse world of dance and physical theatre.

This practical workshop introduces key Building Blocks of Connection, an Arc of Motion method used to support physical storytelling, collaboration, and creative devising. Participants will explore concepts such as Follow, Pull (Attract), Repel (Push), Avoid, and Manipulate through ensemble activities, paired exercises, and individual tasks. The session is designed to spark creativity, deepen connection, and enhance presence—providing teachers with adaptable tools they can use in drama, movement, SEL, and cross-curricular learning environments.

A- Building Bright Beginnings – Getting a Jump Start on Knowing Our Kindergarten Families

- Debra Vanderwood & Sheila Rawnsley

Kindergarten

Early Learning, Inclusive Education

Deb Vanderwood is currently the Curriculum Coordinator for Early Learning and a former Kindergarten teacher. Sheila Rawnsley is the principal of Moody Elementary.

Kindergarten is a pivotal year and K teachers are tasked with the important job of welcoming the children and their families into the school community and setting these young learners up for success. Many of these children and their families are new to the school and the school system. Come explore different ways we can build on the existing Connecting to Kindergarten structure. We will provide opportunity to explore additional, manageable, inviting ways to connect with our incoming K students and their families, build trust and developing positive relationships. Examples from district 43 schools will be shared and participants will have an opportunity to begin brainstorming possibilities that they can implement for their community.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



A- Building Understanding of Fractions and Decimals

- Jen Whiffin & Soyoung Lee

Intermediate - Middle

Math, Learning Support

Jen Whiffin (Numeracy Coordinator) and Soyoung Lee (Mentoring Support Teacher) are both part of the district Numeracy Team. We love supporting in a range of areas including instructional routines, resources, and assessment.

During this session, you will learn how to help your students develop a solid understanding of these very important and often tricky concepts! You will explore fractions and decimals through use of concrete materials, stories, and games. There will be lots of great give aways! Get ready to have fun.

A- Calm in the Storm: Practical Approaches to De-escalation

- Shannon Sullivan & Angie Di Fonzo

Kindergarten - Secondary

Counselling, Inclusive Education, SEL

Shannon & Angie- Please bring “paper and writing utensils.”

Shannon Sullivan is the Coordinator for Counselling Supports and Services. Over her 20 years in Coquitlam, she has served as a teacher, counsellor, and member of the Inclusion Support Team. Her passions include learning about Trauma Informed Practices, educational neuroscience and compassion education. Angie Di Fonzo is a teacher on the Inclusion Support Team. She has had a number of teaching roles in her 15 + years with the district. With understanding of the complexities of the classrooms we are currently working within, she supports school sites with collaborative structures to program for students using the values of care and respect for everyone in the school community.

This workshop focuses on practical de-escalation strategies to help prevent students from reaching crisis mode. Using principles from Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVCI), participants will learn how to recognize early escalation, respond with supportive and regulated language, and apply strategies connected to SD43 Safety Plans. Through brief case studies, participants will explore how to maintain safety, reduce stress, and restore calm during challenging moments. ***Please note, this workshop will not provide NVCI certification. For full certification, please contact the Inclusion Support Team.**



A- Circle Up

- Michelle Daniel (YMCA), Sara Keeler & Bindy Johal

Middle – Secondary
Cross-Curricular, SEL

Michelle, Sara & Bindy- Please bring “a willingness to listen with an open mind and open heart.”

Bindy Johal is the Coordinator of Well-being and Positive Mental Health and also a counsellor and teacher with many years of experience in SD43 supporting children and youth. Sara Keeler is a mentor support teacher in SEL and Restorative Practice with many years of teaching experience at the middle and working with at risk youth. They are both passionate about building and maintaining relationships, meeting students where they are, giving students voice, and making classrooms/schools safe and connected environments.

This session invites youth to share their perspectives in a circle format on what it's like to be a young person in 2026 - the opportunities, challenges, and everyday experiences that shape their world. Through open conversation and guided reflection with approximately 8-10 youth, participants will have a chance to listen to what matters most to them. The goal is to create space for youth voices to be heard, valued, and used to inform future planning and support.

A- A Conversation and Collab for Middle School Computer Explorations

- Drew Sturrock

Middle
Computers Users, STEAM

***Drew – Please bring “a computer to demonstrate your ideas.”**

Drew has worked in SD43 for over 20 years and has taught explorations for more than 8 years.

Let's talk. Explorations teachers get so little time to collaborate. Let's talk about what we do in our programs. You may have something awesome to share.





A- Copilot 13+ : AI at THEIR Fingertips

- Sean Robinson & Nicole Cruz

Secondary

Cross-Curricular

Sean & Nicole- Please bring “a laptop.”

Sean Robinson and Nicole Cruz are District STEAM Support Teachers in SD43 who collaborate to support hands-on, curriculum-connected learning across K-12. Sean brings over 30 years of experience across elementary, secondary, international, and adult education, helping educators leverage technology to deepen and strengthen student learning. Nicole brings over 15 years in education and 8 years specializing in STEAM, with a focus on AI, coding, and design-driven learning. Together, they lead professional development that offers practical strategies and supports teachers.

In this interactive workshop, educators will explore how students can use Copilot 13+ to enhance learning experiences. We'll delve into various aspects of AI including issues surrounding student AI use, thoughtful techniques to manage AI in the classroom and powerful prompts to engage students. This session will be helpful for all ranges of AI comfort.

A- Creating an Inclusive Math Class

- Adi Aharon & Kiren Chand

Intermediate – Middle

Math

Adi & Kiren- Please bring “a sense of adventure and an open mind.”

With over 20 years of experience, Kiren Chand has taught core math to grades 6-8 students, led targeted pull-out programs as an LST, and helped at-risk students in a behaviour support program improve math skills, confidence, and engagement.

Adi Aharon, an educator with 15+ years of experience, uses technology and inclusive practices to support diverse middle school math learners. Her journey proves that meaningful math teaching doesn't require a traditional math background.

A sense of belief and belonging are critical to success in any math class. Through hands-on activities, take home resources, and demonstrations, we will share structures, games, and routines to increase student engagement. Creating a learning environment where students feel comfortable taking mathematical risks while building confidence and having fun is essential. We will utilize simple, easy to incorporate strategies to promote inclusion, growth mindset, accessibility and participation in your math class.



A- Designing for Inclusion With Canva

- Victoria Woelders – ARC-BC

All Levels

Cross-Curricular, ADST, Computer Science, Inclusive Education, Language Arts

Victoria- Please bring “a device with access to your school district or your own Canva account.”

Victoria Woelders is the ARC-BC Provincial Outreach Coordinator for the Accessible Resource Centre – BC, where she has spent the past three years helping educators access ARC-BC accessible digital books. With a background in teaching and a passion for inclusive design, she delivers engaging sessions across the province that bring the Accessible BC Act to life and show how simple accessibility practices can open learning to everyone.

Designing for Inclusion with Canva! Canva offers powerful accessibility tools that empower us to design inclusive newsletters, slide decks, posters, and more. In this session, you'll learn about the Accessible B.C. Act, accessible design and explore how to create digital materials that everyone can enjoy and learn from—whether they are colour blindness; have low vision, and/or use a screen reader. Discover how small Canva design choices can make a big difference and build your confidence that everyone can interact with your Canva design.

A- Developing Oral Participation Strategies in French

Immersion Classrooms

- Pierre-Henri Poudré & Shelley Deacon

Middle - Secondary

French Immersion, Oral French

***Pierre-Henri & Shelley- Please bring “a laptop if you want to take notes and any ideas/strategies that they have used that work to encourage oral communication in the class.”**

Pierre-Henri Poudré and Shelley Deacon are both French Immersion teachers at Charles Best Secondary school and have been teaching in the district at Middle School and Secondary Level for more than 10 years.

As French Immersion teachers, we recognize that having students develop confidence to be able to speak, participate and share in French is a challenge. Over the last few years, we have developed courses at the secondary level in which one of the main objectives is to develop oral competencies. We would like to share our experiences and strategies and have participants share theirs as well.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

CUE43 and Tech-Up Sponsors



A- Digital Literacy and AI

- Jennie King- Science World

Primary – Secondary

ADST, Cross-Curricular, STEAM, Technology Education

Jennie King is a lifelong learner with over a decade of experience working in education. She has taught K-12 science & engineering courses and volunteers through NASA as a Solar System Ambassador, sharing her love of astronomy and space exploration. Currently, Jennie works as the Manager of Educator Programs at Science World in Vancouver, a role which allows her to support the important work of educators across the province. If your brain is full of questions or ideas, especially about STEAM education, Jennie wants to hear them all!

Artificial intelligence isn't new, but generative AI is rapidly transforming how students learn and create. As educators, we play a crucial role in helping students navigate these tools responsibly through strong digital literacy skills. In this workshop, we will explore how students are already using AI, practical ways educators can utilize AI as a teaching tool, and strategies to encourage critical thinking about technology use. Digital literacy is about so much more than fact-checking-- it's about empowering students to engage with the world thoughtfully and critically. Together, we will explore resources that tackle the challenges and lean into the opportunities presented by digital technology and AI use in education.

Sponsored by

Coquitlam Music Teachers' Association

A- Elementary Music Teachers – Sharing Session

- Andrew Dyer-Dietz & Angie Lundin

Kindergarten - Intermediate

Elementary Music, Arts Education



Andrew- "With 14+ years of teaching experience (Grades 1-7 and Music), I bring a love for the arts, inclusive education, and social justice to my role as an elementary music specialist. Holding a B.Ed., a Master's in Curriculum (Arts Education), and ORFF Levels 1 & 2, I strive to inspire creativity and connection in every classroom."

Elementary Music Sharing will cover meaningfully including neurodiverse students and students with support needs in the music classroom and What does meaningful inclusion look like? We will discuss ideas for inclusion of all learners in the music room; means of communicating support needs to admin; and, structures and organizations to support sensory needs. With the support of the Coquitlam Music Teachers Association, we will also open this sharing session up to other Elementary Music teachers who have resources, lessons or activities they are interested in sharing.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by



A- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Research

But Were Afraid to Research

- Lisa Read- Focused Education Resources

Intermediate - Adult

English, ELL, Social Studies

Lisa- "Nothing is necessary, but a laptop or tablet might be handy."

Lisa is a classroom teacher by day and a member of Focused Education Resources Professional Learning Team also by day... when she isn't looking for ways to be in two places at once, she enjoys showing teachers the wealth of digital resources that are freely available to all teachers and their learners.

Using the search feature in a research tool can be almost overwhelming, and may not return the results you expect. You definitely won't be expecting to discover the myriad of creative ways to use search features built into the products in the Digital Classroom – a rich resource you already have access to and might already be using. Come and find out more.

A- Gifted Identification/ CCAT Training for LSTs

- Jeanette Murphy

Intermediate – Middle

Inclusive Education

Jeanette Murphy is SD43's Coordinator for Students with Diverse Abilities. She supports schools in planning and programming for diverse learners. With her MEd in Educational Psychology, involvement as Vice-President in the SAGE-BC PSA, and experience as a Middle School Learning Support teacher, Jeanette aims to provide informative and practical resources for colleagues.

This workshop will review the steps of SD43's Gifted Identification process for Elementary and Middle school students. Screening processes and evidence collection will be discussed. This session is specific to Elementary and Middle School Gifted Learning Support Teachers.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

Coquitlam Teacher-Librarian
Association LSA



A- Graphic Design with Affinity

- Simon Kwok

Middle – Adult

Cross-Curricular, Graphic Design

***Simon- Please bring “a laptop & a mouse that has Affinity(<https://www.affinity.studio/download>) installed. If the laptop is a district device, please request IT to have it installed (servicedesk@sd43.bc.ca). In addition, participants should sign up for a Canva for Education account, which is free for all educators (<https://www.canva.com/education>). For assistance, please submit a STEAM/Tech request through the district).**

Simon has been teaching in the district since 2008 and is passionate about education technology. He worked as a Technology Support Teacher in the district and is now a Library/Learning Commons teacher at Eagle Mountain Middle School.

This session will introduce teachers to a graphic design software called Affinity, which is a free alternative to the Adobe suite of software (Illustrator/Photoshop/Indesign). In this session participants will be introduced to the app and learn how to draw simple curves and shapes and be given some resources for a short unit that they can use with students.

A- The Inclusive Outdoor Classroom

- Tricia Edgar- Fresh Air Learning

Kindergarten – Primary

Cross-Curricular, Environmental Education, Inclusive Education, Outdoor Education



Tricia – Please wear “outdoor gear appropriate for the weather.”

Tricia has been working in the field of nature education for the past thirty years, both at the Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre and as the co-founder of a local forest school, Fresh Air Learning. As a teacher of many neurodivergent learners and as someone with lived experience of neurodivergence, she strives to create learning environments that are naturally inclusive, while understanding and accommodating the diverse needs and interests of all students.

Outdoor learning is naturally inclusive in many ways - nature is accepting of everyone, and the social and sensory experiences that children have outdoors can be quite different than those within the classroom. However, the flow and sensory experience of nature-based learning can also be challenging for students, and children have diverse and sometimes conflicting needs. Whether you are working in a program that primarily runs outdoors or taking your students out to play and learn in an outdoor classroom, this workshop will help you consider the benefits and challenges of outdoor learning environments and strategize ways to make your outdoor adventures more inclusive.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

Coquitlam Music Teachers'
Association



A- Instrument Repair 101

- Terry Gregson – G & G Music

Middle – Secondary
Music/Band

Terry - Please bring “a notebook, phone and sense of humour!”

Terry Gregson is the owner/operator of G&G Music in Maple Ridge. He has a degree in music, is certified in band instrument repairs and piano tuning/repairs. He has taught music lessons since 1977 in private studios, high schools and community bands. He has been a professional performer since the age of 19 and continues to play in 9 bands. Terry often teaches clinics at schools throughout Vancouver and the lower mainland. He has studied at the Vancouver Academy as well as with Robert Jordan, Bruce Clausen, Bob Day, Hemme Luttjeboer and Len Whitley, to name a few.

This session will focus on the basic tools and knowledge you will need for basic instrumental repairs. From brass to woodwinds and more! Terry will go through the basic problems that music directors will face when directing ensembles, and you will leave with practical ways to fix them!

Sponsored by

Coquitlam School Counsellors'
Association

A- Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning

- Katie DeReus

Kindergarten - Secondary

*For Counsellors: Neurodiversity focus



Katie – Please bring “your own computer and earbuds/headphones plus a notebook.”

Katie has been working and volunteering with school aged children since 2003. Katie is an elementary counsellor and has been a teacher at various levels in the Lower Mainland since 2006. Katie uses a child centred approach, utilizing an eclectic approach in her counselling space including sandtray, play therapy, art, mindfulness and Autplay.

This workshop will introduce participants to AutPlay, a neurodiversity affirming framework. This is not a formal training or certification, however this webinar IS the starting point for the AUTPLAY certification pathway. This session offers the gift of time and collegial collaboration in the viewing of the 4 hr webinar 'Introduction to AutPlay Therapy' by Dr. Robert Jason Grant. NOTE: This 90-minute session is NOT sufficient to watch the entire webinar. You may want to begin watching beforehand or complete your viewing after the events of Pro D day is over. Viewing this webinar is recommended viewing for the afternoon session 'Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach'. Participants will need to bring a computer and earbuds.

Sponsored by

CUE43 LSA



A- Introduction to Canva

- Kyle Ekeli

All levels

TECH/STEAM

Kyle – Please bring “your own computer and earbuds/headphones plus a notebook.”

Kyle Ekeli is a grade 4/5 teacher at an elementary school here in Coquitlam. He has been working in a BYOD classroom for many years and enjoys bringing technology into the classroom.

This Canva workshop introduces participants to the basics of creating clean, engaging designs. Learners will explore templates, text tools, graphics, and layout options while completing a simple project. By the end, participants will know how to customize colours, adjust images, organize their work, and confidently use Canva for future classroom, professional, or personal design tasks and creative projects as well.

A- Kwikwetlem Nation Meet the Nation

- Nancy Joe, Kristina Joe, Chief and Council- Kwikwetlem First Nation

All Levels

Indigenous Education, Community Building



k'wík'wəłəm

Kwikwetlem First Nation

OFF-SITE SESSION: Arrive 8:30 – 8:45 am Colony Farm Community Gardens parking lot, Colony Farm Road, Coquitlam, BC V3C 5X9

Nancy – Please “dress for the weather, and comfortable footwear for walking outside.”

Nancy Joe has been the Cultural Advisor for the k'wík'wəłəm Nation for the past several years.

Teachers will gather and be welcomed to the Kwikwetlem Lands at the Community Hall. From there they will be split into 3 groups and have a tour around the area, visiting the Transformation stone, the Canoe Shed, and hear stories of the river and the watershed.

This is a **‘strictly limited’** workshop. Participants will park at the Colony Farm Community Gardens parking lot where volunteers will be waiting to accompany them to the Community Centre.

Please note that by registering you are consenting to have your name shared with the facilitators. If you can not make the session please unregister so that someone else can fill the spot, thank you.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



A- Learn to Needle Felt

- Mel Broome- [Baaad Anna's Yarn Store](#)

All Levels

Arts, Inclusive Education, Tactile Hands-on Learning

***This workshop will be \$15 per participant, invoices will be sent out and must be paid before the day. All fibre arts materials will be included. Yellow forms cannot be used for reimbursement. ***

Mel is a natural ambassador for felting, touting portability as one of its greatest assets, as well as the fact that it's suitable for broad ranges of age and ability. She takes her felting with her wherever she goes and finds it an easy conversation starter and way to connect with people.

Learn the basic techniques of needle felting to empower artistic exploration using a unique medium. Hands-on teaching-the-teacher skills sharing of needle felting basics that would allow attendees to take away enough skills to host their own basic in-class workshop or create a needle felting station in their classroom. Find out how to bring an affordable and accessible tool to your tactile teaching endeavours.



A- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your Classroom

- Chuck Baker

Middle – Secondary

Creative Writing, English

Chuck- Please bring “something to write with.”

*Ace Baker (Chuck Baker) is the author of two collections of short fiction, *How to Make a Killing Jar* and *Bathing in Fire*. His prose has won the Storyteller Award, PNWA awards, and has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize, the Journey Prize, and National Magazine awards, among others. He has been teaching creative writing for more than twenty years and is also a writing coach and developmental editor. A chapbook of his poetry, *Mosaic: Bright Lives, Broken*, will be published in March, 2026.*

Small stories make a big impact. Join writer and educator Ace Baker for a dynamic workshop on teaching flash fiction and personal essay to middle school and high school English students. Get high-impact methods and useable materials to help them brainstorm, craft, revise, and submit their writing to real-world markets. Walk-throughs, examples, and tools you can use to bring a love of the short forms to your students.

A- Motivational Strategies for Indigenous Learners

- Claire Shannon-Akiwenzie- I-SPARC

Kindergarten – Middle
Cross-Curricular, PHE, SEL

Claire – Please bring “a notebook.”

Claire Shannon-Akiwenzie (Anishinaabe/Irish) is a member of the Chippewas of Nawash unceded First Nation. She is a teacher within the Vancouver School District and a member of the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee for the BCTF. Claire is also a dedicated facilitator of ISPARC’s FitNation, Healthy Living, Movement in Motion and Indigenous Cultural Safety Programs.

This workshop explores physical literacy and how developing students’ confidence and competence in movement skills enhances motivation for physical activity. Educators will gain practical strategies to create inclusive, supportive environments that encourage lifelong participation and positive attitudes toward movement. Together, participants will examine common challenges and barriers affecting student motivation and engagement, while learning to meet students where they are through a holistic approach. The session provides actionable tools to inspire and support students on their physical literacy journey, empowering educators to foster meaningful connections between movement, confidence, and overall well-being.

A- Omnikin and Minor PE Games

- Don Hutchinson

Kindergarten – Middle
Physical Education



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

OFFSITE SESSION: Taking place at CENTRAL ELEMENTARY

Don- Please “be prepared to be active.”

Don: “I am currently a School Administrator in Coquitlam BC. I previously taught at the Middle School level as a Middle School PE/Athletic Director for 9 years. I have also held a few different committee positions such as District Chair PE LSA, Provincial Chair PE PSA (PEBC), Council of Provinces (Provincial PE reps- PHE Canada) and Board Member (PHE Canada).”

Join us for an engaging session where you'll explore the power of cooperative gameplay to inspire active lifestyles and boost confidence in all participants. Discover a plethora of new game ideas featuring vibrant and durable lightweight balls, ranging from 14" to 48".



A- Physical Literacy in the Classroom and Beyond

- Sinead Joy

Primary – Intermediate

Literacy, Numeracy, PHE, Physical Literacy

Sinead – Please bring “some examples of what they use to foster learning through movement.”

Sinead is a French Immersion kindergarten teacher who loves to get her students moving to learn, indoors and outdoors. “ I did a post grad in PHE at Douglas College which focused on physical literacy in sport and physical activity. In July, I completed my master’s in educational leadership with a specific focus on using imaginative education and physical literacy (activity) in the classroom. I am someone who sees the value of physical activity and movement as a way to engage my students.”

This workshop will be an interactive and sharing opportunity for teachers interested in using movement and imagination in their teaching practice to help and focus their students learning. Participants will leave with examples of ways to incorporate more movement using imaginative engagement with their students.

Sponsored by



A- The Power of Process: A Creative Approach to Well-Being in the Classroom

-Julie Epp - Evergreen Cultural Centre

All levels

Cross-Curricular, Inclusive Education, STEAM

Julie Epp is a visual artist whose practice spans painting, sculpture, and mixed media, allowing her to explore themes of beauty, nature, and the human experience through varied forms and materials. An award-winning artist based in Abbotsford, BC, Julie holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of the Fraser Valley, where she developed her foundational skills and creative voice. Her work has been exhibited in galleries and community spaces throughout British Columbia, reflecting both her technical range and her thoughtful approach to storytelling through art. In addition to her studio practice, Julie is a dedicated arts educator who teaches children and adults across the Lower Mainland, inspiring creativity, confidence, and curiosity in her students.

This hands-on professional development workshop invites teachers to explore the power of process over product, both in art and in teaching. Through a creative clay-based session focused on making, destroying, and re-making, participants will experience firsthand how embracing imperfection, flexibility, and curiosity can support emotional well-being and build resilience. Drawing connections to mental health awareness, executive functioning, and classroom strategies, this session encourages educators to reflect on how creative processes can foster focus, adaptability, and stress management for both students and teachers. Participants will leave with practical insights and exercises they can integrate into their classrooms, as well as a renewed appreciation for the creative process as a tool for self-care, empathy, and growth.



A- School Counsellors and Teacher Collaborations for Supporting Students, Teachers and Families in the School Setting

- Cindy Campbell & Marina Steeves

Kindergarten – Secondary

SEL

Marina Steeves, M.Ed., is currently an elementary school counsellor. Cindy Campbell M.Ed., is a high school counsellor. Collectively, we offer insights into multiple levels of the school environment and believe in the value of collaboration with peers, families, and students towards building student success in the school setting. We are both lifelong learners looking forward to learning and sharing with all those who attend the workshop.

In this workshop, we are bringing teachers and counsellors together to have the opportunity to discuss, share, and foster a collaborative approach to the rising complexity of student needs within classrooms. School counsellors support students on their journey, and this requires us to collaborate with teachers and families to help with student success in the classroom and beyond. We will focus on how to support category R and H students and beyond. Attendees are encouraged to participate in the conversation and share experiences (maintaining confidentiality) for the opportunity to foster deeper discussion into how teacher/counsellor collaborations can lead to a supportive environment for all.



A- Soapstone Carving

- Victoria Eftimova, Phoebe O'Shea & Paola Camacho

- Studiostone Creative

Primary - Adult

STEAM, Art

This workshop will cost \$19/person for supplies, invoices will be sent out and must be paid before the CTA PD day. Yellow forms cannot be used for reimbursement.

Studiostone Creative partners with schools locally and across Canada and the USA to bring hands-on stone carving into the classroom. Our programs support teachers with curriculum-aligned projects that build creativity, confidence, and fine-motor skills. Founded by local sculptor Oliver Harwood, we're dedicated to making the art of carving accessible, inspiring, and achievable for every student.

In this workshop, you'll learn how to carve a soapstone **Turtle** starting from a pre-cut shape, making the process approachable for all skill levels. With guidance throughout, you'll use hand files and sandpaper to round the form, refine details, and smooth the surface. Once the shaping is complete, we'll finish the sculpture with a natural polish that brings out the stone's vibrant, one-of-a-kind colours and patterns. By the end, you'll leave with a beautiful hand-carved piece.



A- Sport Education Model – Everyone Has a Place on the Team!

- Megan Ferreira

Middle - Secondary
Physical Education

***Megan- Please bring “an open mind and questions.”**

Megan: “I started my career in secondary school teaching science and found myself a place in middle school. I am currently a grade 8 middle school teacher in Port Coquitlam. I have always enjoyed playing a variety of sports, coaching school teams, and being active so I pursued my masters in Physical Education, Sport and Physical Literacy.”

Sport Education Model is a PE model that allows students to find their spot on a team. The class is broken up into teams for a specific sport or game and they each have a role to play - coach, trainer, manager, etc. They take the lead on building skills and learning from each other in small groups and it gives students an opportunity to let their leadership shine. It allows for inclusion for all and quality assessment for the teacher.

Sponsored by

SD43 Literacy



A- Teaching All Learners in Secondary Classes

- Karla Allan, Alexa Charles, & Lynda Lewis

Secondary
Cross-Curricular, Literacy

Karla, Alexa & Lynda – Please bring “laptops.”

Alexa Charles is a District Mentor Support Teacher with a focus on Literacy. Lynda Lewis is a District Mentor Support Teacher with a focus on Learning Support & Secondary, and Karla Allan is the Coordinator of Literacy and Core Competencies. With combined experiences in classroom and learning support roles we are committed to providing opportunities for meaningful learning conversations.

The SD43 Literacy team is hosting a session for secondary teachers in all subject areas. We invite participants to gather to talk about what is working to help students access content in secondary classes. This is a collaborative session and all secondary teachers are welcome. We look forward to connecting, sharing and learning from each other.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

Learning for a Lifetime

A- This is English? A Different Way to Experience English

Language Learning

- Maple Lee

Secondary - Adult

ELL

Maple- Please bring “your phone or personal device, your personal experiences, and an open mind.”

Maple Lee is currently an instructor in the LINC, Foundations English, and K-12 programs. From her name, you can see her Canadian roots and the audibly missing F that would complete the Canadian Leaf. She loves people, life, the arts, and finds fulfillment in helping people achieve their goals and overcome challenges.

Is this English? Come for a whirlwind historical and cultural tour of language learning from a different perspective and you may leave with some new ideas to meet your students' English language learning needs. This presentation with its many interactive components explores how the process of language deciphering and decoding can become “meeting places” for people in the intersections of life and education. English Language Learners come to our schools at different entry points with different ‘keys’ from their own life experiences and skills they bring, so how can educators meet them where they are at? Let's explore together!

Sponsored by

Indigenous Education



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

Learning for a Lifetime

A- Trading Game

- Rob Cowie

Intermediate & Secondary

BC First People, English First Peoples, Social Studies

Rob Cowie has been an Indigenous Resource Teacher for the past 12 years, developing curriculum and supporting teachers in our and other districts.

In this hands-on approach teachers will take the role of an Indigenous Community trading resources with others to prepare for winter. Each round leads teachers along a historical timeline of the impact of colonization through the lens of trade.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

A-Understanding, Expressing, and Maintaining Boundaries

- Laurel Aasen- Laurel Aasen Counselling and Consulting

Intermediate - Adult

SEL

Laurel – Please bring “pen and paper.”

Laurel Aasen is a registered Clinical Counsellor (RCC) dedicated to promoting community literacy in trauma-informed practices and emotional regulation. She is passionate about translating neuropsychological research and clinical interventions into practical tools that help individuals and organizations strengthen connection, co-regulation, and conflict navigation. Over the past decade Laurel has developed a particular interest in supporting educators as they balance the shifting demands of their profession, the education system, and the diverse needs of students and families - while also tending to their own well-being. She strives to deliver educational sessions that are engaging, accessible, and grounded in real-world application.

This workshop offers practical and experiential opportunities for educators to identify and uphold boundaries that support both connection and clarity with students and their families. Participants will be guided in exploring personal and professional values to define needs, limits, and role-based responsibilities, while learning to recognize early emotional and relational cues that signal when boundary adjustments are needed. Regulation and cognitive tools will be introduced to help educators remain grounded when boundaries are tested, alongside scripting to support clear, compassionate communication. The workshop will also address releasing responsibility for others' emotional responses to boundaries, while maintaining trust, collaboration, and relational integrity within school communities.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

A-Understanding Indigiqueer

- Maxine Jackson

All levels

Indigenous Education, Intersectionality, SOGI

Maxine – Please bring “a laptop or notebook.”

Maxine Jackson (She/Her) is a Queer, Lesbian Métis Educator living and working in the Coquitlam School District (SD43), on the core territory of the *k'wík'wəłəm* First Nation. She is a citizen of the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) and currently teaches English & English First Peoples at Riverside Secondary School in Port Coquitlam.

Navigating teaching while important issues such as Indigenous and SOGI rights come up is a daunting task for many teachers when they are on their own. This presentation will help inform Educators on how to build comfortability and confidence in conversing on these topics in the classroom, and among staff and in their community. Knowing how Indigeneity and SOGI intersect is an imperative step for inclusivity both in the classroom and out in our communities.

A- Understanding and Supporting Students with FASD**- Lael Sleep - POPFASD**

All levels

Inclusive Education



Lael Sleep is a Provincial Educator with the Provincial Outreach Program for FASD (POPFASD). They support educators across B.C. in building understanding and inclusive strategies for students with FASD. Lael is committed to relationship-based practice and creating more inclusive, equitable learning environments for all students.

Students with FASD and complex learning profiles often face misunderstanding and environments that don't fit their needs. This workshop helps educators understand behaviours, apply strengths-based and culturally responsive approaches, and design supportive, predictable classrooms. Participants will reflect on practice, explore brain-based differences, and learn strategies to help learners succeed. The focus is on valuing every learner and every story, creating safe and engaging environments where all students can thrive.

A- Using Drama Techniques to Enhance Read Alouds**- Jennifer Misera**

Kindergarten - Secondary

Drama, Language Arts

**School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)**

Learning for a Lifetime

Jennifer- Please bring “your willingness to step outside of your comfort zone.”

Jennifer Misera has been an avid performer in theatre since high school and carried her love of acting to the Acting for Stage and Screen Program at Capilano University. After receiving her certificate, she worked for the Walt Disney Company for four years leading events as a Cast Member. Once becoming a teacher, Jennifer realized that the acting techniques she learned over many years engaged every reader while reading books out loud. Because reading books out loud benefits every student and ability, Jennifer wants to share acting techniques that can make read alouds more engaging and enjoyable for everyone.

In this workshop, you will have the chance to try out different techniques that actors in theatre regularly use to connect and engage with our audience. This will include the opportunity to work on your volume, read monologues and cold reads and learn how to engage your students while reading. Whether you've got your jazz hands ready to go, or have no idea what a monologue is, you will learn techniques that you can use to help your students connect with what they are reading and enjoy it so much that they keep asking for one more chapter.

A- The Well Teacher

- Christy de Bulnes- Humanworks Consulting Group Inc.

All levels

Teacher Health

Christy – Please bring “pencil or pen.”

Christy is a registered clinical counsellor and rehabilitation consultant for Humanworks Consulting Group. In her role with Humanworks, she supports teachers who are participating in BCTF's Health and Wellness Program. In addition, she is a presenter of The Well Teacher, which is a group-based program offered online that provides educators the time and space to work with their colleagues and a trained wellness facilitator to work on their own wellness. Christy came to these roles following a career as a school educator. She values educators and the immense role they play in shaping our children, while understanding the demands of the occupation.

Being a teacher today is not easy. The demands that educators face inside and outside the classroom make it difficult for many teachers to maintain their physical and mental health. Challenging classroom dynamics and supporting family and friends leave educators with little time to focus on their personal wellbeing. This abridged version of The Well Teacher Group, is intended to highlight the key parts of wellness and how to lead a balanced life as a teacher. We will cover wellness across all domains (personal/professional) with attention to designing a plan to make changes in a realistic and sustainable way.

Sponsored by



A- Who Tells the Story? Unpacking Historical Narratives in BC History

- Wayne Axford- BC Labour Heritage Centre

Secondary

Social Studies

Wayne – Please bring “a laptop or tablet.”

Wayne is a retired Social Studies Department head from the Burnaby School District and is the Education consultant for the Labour Heritage Centre.

BC Labour Heritage Centre has developed a diverse collection of resource materials and teaching suggestions for exploring the significant and defining moments of BC's history. Utilizing the varied selection of primary and secondary resources in the project's collection and also drawing on extensive community resources; this workshop will explore the conflicting narratives that have framed the legacies of both individuals and events shaping our provincial history. Discover new resources and teaching ideas to re-examine the contributions of diverse people and groups that built BC.

Resources are freely available to all users and many teaching ideas have been translated into French immersion classrooms. Perspectives of economic development, ethnicity, gender and social class will be explored in this session.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

A- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools

- Maria Romanelli & Carol Lum - SET-BC

Intermediate – Adult

Cross-Curricular, Inclusive Education

Carol and Maria have been teachers with the Vancouver School Board for twenty years, where they have supported students in both classroom and resource settings. At SET-BC, they now focus on improving literacy and inclusion for all students, through the use of assistive technology.

This workshop will explore built-in and free reading and writing tools to support literacy. When working on a laptop, these built-in tools allow students to access information, make annotations, create and edit their own writing. Some supports include: dictation, predictive text, text-to-speech online and in Word, annotation of PDFs for assignment completion, and the reduction of visual distractions from websites. These tools align with the principles of UDL as they will benefit all students. Come explore them with us.

This is a hands-on workshop – laptops provided.



A- Writing to Heal Us

- Julianne Harvey-Ruby Finch Books

All levels

SEL, Teacher Wellness

Julianne – Please bring “paper and pen if possible.”

Julianne Harvey is an author, innovator, and nurturer in South Surrey, BC. She's the author of six books and holds an MFA and a BA in Creative Writing, along with a certificate in Counselling Skills. Julianne writes a Substack newsletter, hosts a monthly podcast called Intuitive Courage, and teaches classes on writing, climate, and nurture. For more, please see julianneharvey.com and rubyfinchbooks.com for more information.

The creative practice of writing can offer us healing and an improved feeling of wellness, but only if we learn to let go of perfectionism. In this session, we'll work through how hard it can be to worry about offending others with what we have to say. We'll practice intuitive courage when learning to use our unique literary voice. We'll discuss how to generate ideas for fiction and creative nonfiction. If you teach creative writing, or you've longed to write yourself, this encouraging and motivating session is for you.

Session B Workshops – 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

B- Climbing the Mountain: An Educator's Guide - 360 to Teacher Reconciliation in the Classroom

- Niigaan Sinclair – KEYNOTE

All Levels

Cross-Curricular



Niigaan Sinclair is Anishinaabe from Peguis First Nation. He is an award-winning writer, editor and professor of Indigenous Studies at the University of Manitoba who was named by Maclean's Magazine in 2022 as one of the most influential people in Canada.

Niigaan is a multiple nominee of Canadian columnist of the year (winning in 2018) and his commentary appears weekly on multiple platforms across Canada. His first book *Wînipêk: Visions of Canada from an Indigenous Centre* was a national bestseller that won the 2024 Governor General Award for Non-fiction.

He is a former secondary school teacher who won the 2019 Peace Educator of the Year from the Peace and Justice Studies Association based at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Climbing the Mountain explores the many ways in which educators can bring reconciliation into the classroom in meaningful ways. It provides educators with essential resources which allow them to not only facilitate their own professional development, but also to create safer and more authentic learning spaces. The phrase Climbing the Mountain represents the long, challenging journey towards reconciliation, navigating the obstacles through persistent effort. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was completed in 2015, leaving the 94 calls to action for all Indigenous communities and Canada to implement together. How do we implement all of the calls to action in schools? Come spend time learning about 340 ways to implement the 94 calls to action in all facets of schooling and create an educational space for reconciliation to occur not just on one day but every day.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

B- BC SPCA in the Classroom: Incorporating Animal-Themed Lessons Across the Curriculum

- Allison Simpson- BCSPCA

Primary - Intermediate
Cross-Curricular

Sponsored by BC SPCA

Humane Education



Allison- Please wear “outdoor clothing appropriate for the weather.”

Allison Simpson is a BC-certified teacher with experience supporting diverse learners in public and private classrooms. In 2016, she joined the BC SPCA as a Regional Humane Educator, where she combines her passion for teaching with a deep commitment to animal welfare. Now, as the School Program Specialist, she designs professional resources and educational programs that explore the interconnectedness of humans, animals, the land, and nature. Allison's work centers on helping students develop a deeper understanding of animals to foster empathy, responsibility, and ethical action toward all living and non-living beings. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Curriculum and Pedagogy at Simon Fraser University, and her academic interests include place-based pedagogy and decolonizing social-emotional learning practices.

Let the BC SPCA show you how to harness students' curiosity and engagement with humane education. Our program is a cross-curricular, inquiry-led pedagogy that strives to show the interconnectedness of nature, animals, and people, and the relationships that exist between us. Humane education considers systemic issues and solution-based thinking to tackle local and global issues in creative ways. Interwoven with First People's Principles for Learning of community, connectedness and reciprocal relationships, this workshop uses animals as a vehicle to create experiential outdoor lessons for primary and intermediate grades. Join the BC SPCA's humane education team for a fun, inspiring, hands-on workshop all about incorporating animal-themed, experiential lessons.

B- Beyond the Basics: Intermediate Applications of AI for Educators

- David Gilbar

Middle – Adult
Cross-Curricular

David- Please bring “a laptop.”



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

David Gilbar is a Media Arts and Digital Literacy teacher at Gleneagle. He has been with SD#43 for 10 years. He has a background in graphic design and a passion for technology.

It's 2026, and the conversation about artificial intelligence in education is ready to move beyond definitions, ethical debates, and concerns over academic integrity. This session invites educators who are already engaging with AI tools to explore advanced, practical applications that enhance teaching effectiveness and efficiency. Participants will exchange proven strategies and productivity techniques across a range of platforms with a focus on freely available online resources and Microsoft-integrated tools. Emphasis will be placed on real-world implementation and how AI can streamline planning, enrich assessment, enhance creativity, and foster innovative approaches to teaching and learning. Attendees will leave with concrete, actionable ideas drawn from the shared experience and expertise of fellow educators.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

B- Branching Out: How to Start Your Own Outdoor Ed Program

- Brittany Litz

Middle

Cross-Curricular, Outdoor Education

OFFSITE SESSION: Taking place at HILLCREST MIDDLE

Brittany- Please wear “weather appropriate clothing and footwear.”

With a Master's in English and a minor in International & Global Education, Brittany brings 15 years of teaching experience in the district. After six years in a core middle school classroom, she spent the last five years leading an innovative Outdoor Education Exploration program at Hillcrest Middle. Passionate about the outdoors and its power to influence human connection and collaboration, Brittany is currently pursuing a Master's in Education Counselling.

Curious about taking learning beyond the classroom? This interactive workshop will guide you through the essentials of starting an outdoor education program at your middle school—where to begin, how to tackle logistics and challenges, and strategies for managing behavior in nature. We'll explore UDL for diverse learners, share creative unit ideas (orienteering, shelter building, fungi, and more), and experience a sample outdoor lesson in Mundy Park. Topics will flex based on participant interests and weather—so dress for the outdoors! An indoor space is available if needed. Come ready to collaborate, share, and spark new ideas.

B- Bringing the Magic of Canva to Your Classroom

- Adi Aharon

Kindergarten – Secondary

Cross-Curricular

Adi- Please bring “your computer with a setup Canva account.”

Adi is a veteran educator who blends technology, inclusion, and humour to help teachers build classrooms where all learners thrive. With over 16 years in education, she's known for practical strategies, clear communication, and the ability to stay calm even when the internet refuses to connect. Her workshops are grounded, interactive, and designed to leave teachers feeling supported – not overwhelmed.

In this 90-minute hands-on workshop, you'll learn how to use Canva to design clear, engaging classroom materials – quickly and easily. We'll cover the essentials: templates, slides, posters, visual supports, and teacher-friendly shortcuts that save time. No design experience needed – just curiosity and a willingness to try new tools. By the end, you'll walk away with ready-to-use resources, practical skills, and the confidence to create visuals that support every learner. Let's get started!



B- Built for the Wild: Exploring BC Animals Through STEAM And Indigenous Ways of Knowing

- Nicole Cruz

Intermediate - Middle

Cross-Curricular, First Peoples, STEAM

Nicole Cruz is a District STEAM Support Teacher. She empowers educators to design inclusive, hands-on learning experiences that spark creativity, resilience, and real-world problem-solving. With over 15 years in education and 8 years specializing in STEAM, Nicole integrates sustainability, design thinking to help learners build confidence through purposeful challenges. Her Professional Development Workshops encourage thoughtful reflection and innovation, connecting classroom practice to global issues in meaningful ways. Nicole has presented locally and internationally, sharing practical strategies that inspire curiosity and critical thinking. She has an M.Ed. from UBC and continues to explore ways to make learning impactful, equitable, and engaging.

Animals are nature's best problem-solvers, adapting to their environments in creative and unexpected ways. In this hands-on workshop, educators will explore BC's diverse wildlife through STEAM challenges that highlight biomimicry, animal adaptations, simple machines, and environmental stewardship. Using cardboard, art materials, and simple engineering concepts, participants will design and build BC animals that actually move -without coding or technology- applying principles of structural design, problem-solving, and biomimicry to explore how nature inspires innovation. Indigenous perspectives on animals, ecosystems, and sustainability are woven throughout, deepening connections between STEAM, creativity, and the ways we learn from nature.

Sponsored by

B- Choir Leadership: Let's Start at the Very Beginning

- Diana Clark - Coastal Sound Music

Primary – Secondary

Music

Coquitlam Music Teachers' Association



Diana- Please “wear comfortable clothing.”

Diana Clark is the Artistic Director of Coastal Sound Music, a multi-level choral organization based in Coquitlam, BC. With an eclectic background that includes a Master's Degree in Music Performance and a Master of Music Education from Northwestern University, Diana is recognized for her creative work with young musicians and has served as a clinician across Canada. She taught music in SD43 public elementary schools for 32 years, including 3 years as Fine Arts Coordinator. In October 2025 Diana was on faculty at Choir Alberta's Choral Leadership Gathering in Banff and in August 2026 she will be on faculty for the BC Choral Federation conducting course. Her workshop sessions always offer a treasure-trove of practical ideas that connect repertoire to curriculum.

Whether you are brand new to leading a choir or want to brush up on your skills, this session will focus on essential skills needed to lead a successful and engaging singing group. Receive practical guidance, learn why certain gestures and the things we do as choir leaders have such an influence on singers and their voices. We'll do some vocal exploration to more fully understand the voice-body-conducting gesture connection, and we'll hone our “critical choral listening” skills so that we can take our singing groups to the next level. Whether you are brand new to leading a choir or just want to brush up on your skills. This session will focus on essential skills.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

B- Circle Work

- Terri Mae Galligos & Lorenda Mckay

Kindergarten - Secondary
Cross-Curricular

Indigenous Education



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

*Terri Mae- Please bring “paper/pen for notes taking.”

Terri Mae Galligos, ancestral name Setlakus, belongs to the Tla’amin Nation now known as Powell River. She was the first “status Indian/ lived experience” educator to pioneer the Aboriginal (Indigenous) Education program as a non-enrolling teacher for Coquitlam School District. Throughout the years, she has facilitated Talking Circles as an Indigenous pedagogy from K-12. She uses the term Circle Work, as in some Coast Salish cultures, this action word represents all coming together in a good way. Lorenda Mckay belongs to the Nisga'a Nation and is an Indigenous Youth Worker for SD43.

There are many formats of Talking Circles/ Circle Work. Protocols and process will be discussed. Each participant will have the opportunity to speak and to listen to understand. We will examine ourselves using memory and honour. The format will be 5 rounds. The four rounds will include speaking to and honoring: childhood, youth, adult and Elder. The closing round will be determined by the group with a positive acknowledgement. Debriefing will include what worked, areas of improvement and/or how might Circle Work contribute to your teaching practice.

Each participant will leave the session with a gift.

Sponsored by

The Children's Educational
Foundation of Canada

B- DIY Bee House

- Naomi Higo – Douglas College

Intermediate – Adult
Biology, STEAM, Urban Ecology



Naomi- Please bring “a clean and empty 2L pop bottle or 2L juice carton.”

Naomi is the Coordinator for the Institute of Urban Ecology (IUE) at Douglas College. IUE is a not for profit that offers FREE environmental science workshops for all ages. We believe that by raising public awareness of nature in the city, we can inspire people to think about how their choices affect the urban environment.

The DIY Bee House workshop is one of IUE's FREE workshops designed for grade 4 all the way up to high school (not suitable for k-3). The workshop is available in person (for schools that qualify) or online (synchronous and/or asynchronous). In this workshop, teachers will learn how to use the asynchronous video and associated hands-on activity.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



B- Dungeons and Deskmates

- Andrew Campbell & Dawn English

Intermediate – Secondary

Cross-Curricular, Social Studies, STEAM

Andrew & Dawn- Please bring “a pencil (and their imaginations!)”

Andrew and Dawn are middle school teachers who strive to use cross-curricular and STEAM-centric methods in much of what they teach in French, English, and Social Studies. In conjunction with this, they teach various curriculum-related themes and messages in adventures that they call Dungeons & Deskmates. In addition to their classroom experience, Dawn and Andrew’s respective backgrounds in creative writing and imaginative education guide their everyday adventures.

Dungeons and Deskmates involves leading a class through a curriculum-aligned adventure. Through these curricular frames, students are an active part of a branching narrative where they must work together to succeed. In this workshop, participants will begin by either setting sail on a high seas pirate adventure, training as space peacekeepers, or meeting up in a medieval tavern. Andrew and Dawn invite you all into a world where success is fun, failing is funny, and the learning is more magical than ever before.

B- Empowering Student Voice Through Digital Storytelling

- Emily Hartley

Middle – Secondary

Cross-Curricular, English Language Arts

Emily- Please bring “your District laptop.”

Emily Hartley is a high school English teacher passionate about fostering relational pedagogy and integrating digital literacy into the classroom. She focuses on empowering student voice through creative and digital media practices that build connection, agency, and critical engagement.

This session explores how Microsoft Clipchamp can be used in the classroom to engage students in creating digital short stories that bring their voices and ideas to life. Participants will learn how to integrate digital storytelling into various units, including fiction, story writing, and spoken word poetry. Through hands-on exploration and student examples, teachers will discover how Clipchamp can foster creativity, digital literacy, and personal expression. Although this session primarily focuses on applications within the English classroom, there are endless opportunities for cross-curricular applications.



B- The Ethical Curriculum in the Age of GenAI

- Dr. Greg Sutherland - SFU

All levels

Cross-Curricular

Dr. Greg Sutherland is a Métis scholar and a continuing lecturer in Indigenous pedagogies and practices in the Faculty of Education at SFU. He is a frequent presenter in the North Van, Burnaby, Langley, Haida Gwaii, and Coquitlam school districts and provincial PD events (most recently as the keynote speaker for the CUEBC PSA). He has delivered talks at U of T, UVic, SFU, UCal, and UBC.

Approaches to Generative AI in the classroom are among the most pressing issues for teachers today, but many of these debates overlook the implications of GenAI in a context of healing and reconciliation. Alternative approaches to GenAI in schools can be found in Indigenous scholarly protocols that orient students to concepts of ethicality, self-location, recognition of permissions, gifting, and sources of knowledge. This workshop will offer several concrete classroom practices for approaching healing and reconciliation through ethical teaching and research practices.



**SIMON FRASER
UNIVERSITY**

B- Flash in a Block: Crafting Authentic Stories in Real Time

- Andrew Celenza

Intermediate – Adult

English

Andrew- Please bring “pen and pencil.”

Andrew Celenza is an English Educator and current Department Head at Charles Best Secondary. He is passionate about how stories reflect our world and loves how Fantasy and Science Fiction can make us contemplate truths about our society.

In an age where AI-generated content is increasingly prevalent, ensuring the authenticity of student writing is more important than ever. This hands-on workshop introduces educators to a dynamic flash fiction strategy inspired by acclaimed authors, Mary Robinette Kowal and Brandon Sanderson. Participants will learn how to guide students through the process of writing a complete flash fiction story in a single class session using a structured, time-efficient method. By focusing on key storytelling elements such as character, setting, genre, and conflict, students will develop essential narrative skills while producing original work in real time. This engaging activity not only fosters creativity and confidence but also provides teachers with peace of mind, knowing the work submitted is genuinely student-created.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

CUE43 and Tech-Up Sponsors



B- Health in Orbit

- Jennie King- Science World

Primary – Secondary

ADST, Human Biology, STEAM, Technology Education

Jennie King is a lifelong learner with over a decade of experience working in education. She has taught K-12 science & engineering courses and volunteers through NASA as a Solar System Ambassador, sharing her love of astronomy and space exploration. Currently, Jennie works as the Manager of Educator Programs at Science World in Vancouver, a role which allows her to support the important work of educators across the province. If your brain is full of questions or ideas, especially about STEAM education, Jennie wants to hear them all!

We live inside human bodies every day, but do we really understand them? Let's embark on an imaginative journey through the major human body systems by exploring how they are affected when humans travel into space. Encourage your students to ask questions like, "Why do astronauts have to exercise for multiple hours each day?" and "What would my body need in order to survive on Mars?" This health and anatomy-focused workshop will also weave in physics, engineering, and digital tools—including AI and data modeling—to analyze astronaut health data, simulate space environments, and explore the future of human spaceflight through a cross-curricular STEAM-based investigation of both inner and outer space.

Sponsored by

B- An Indigenous Approach to Getting Started with

Physical Literacy

- Dwayne Roberts- I·SPARC

Kindergarten – Middle

Cross-Curricular, PHE, SEL

Ministry of Health



Indigenous Sport,
Physical Activity &
Recreation Council
∞ ⚽ ⚪ ⚫

Dwayne – Please wear “active clothing and footwear.”

Dwayne Roberts is the Project Manager for Indigenous Programs – Learning in Motion, combining expertise in program management, facilitation, and coaching with a people-first approach. Of Chinese and Guyanese ancestry and a proud father of twin boys, Dwayne values culture, identity, and connection. Known for his teamwork and listening skills, he builds strong relationships and fosters collaboration rooted in respect and cultural awareness. Dedicated to supporting Indigenous communities through education and wellness, Dwayne plays a vital role in advancing Learning in Motion's mission and I·SPARC's inclusive programs that honour community voices and celebrate collective strength.

Developed in collaboration with Indigenous communities and educators, and guided by the leadership of I·SPARC, this workshop weaves Indigenous perspectives into physical literacy through the lens of the First Peoples' Principles of Learning. Participants will explore practical strategies to support the development of students' physical literacy and learn how to use storytelling as a meaningful way to connect with Indigenous communities and integrate physical literacy within the classroom and across the school day.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

Coquitlam School Counsellors'
Association



B- Introduction to Autplay: A Hands-on Approach

- Katie DeReus & Cathy Pitman

Kindergarten - Secondary

*For Counsellors: Neurodiversity focus

Learning Services Teachers may also attend

Katie – “You may want to bring your tools for planning and note-taking, computer and a water bottle. Note details for the AutPlay webinar that needs to be watched before attending.”

Cathy brings extensive experience in both elementary and middle school counselling. She is deeply passionate about building community and helping students feel a sense of belonging and connection. A lifelong learner, Cathy continually seeks out new approaches and interventions to support her students, including Preventure, mindfulness practices, nature-based learning, and AutPlay. Katie has been working and volunteering with school aged children since 2003. Katie is an elementary counsellor and has been a teacher at various levels in the Lower Mainland since 2006. Katie uses a child centred approach, utilizing an eclectic approach in her counselling space including sandtray, play therapy, art, mindfulness and Autplay.

This workshop will introduce participants to AutPlay, a neurodiversity affirming framework. This is not a formal training or certification. This in-person session will focus on learning and practicing the hands-on activities written by Autplay creator Dr. Robert Jason Grant in his book 'Play Interventions for Neurodivergent Children and Adolescents: Promoting Growth, Empowerment, and Affirming Practice'. Several copies will be available in the room, but feel free to bring your own copy of the book. **NOTE: The overview of the AutPlay framework is offered free via a 4-hr webinar. Participants will need to view this. This webinar will be shared with you, to view in advance of the workshop or in session Introduction to Autplay: Collaborative Viewing and Learning.**

B- Introduction to Cyanotype Printing

- Maya U Schueller Elmes

Intermediate - Secondary

Art

Sponsored by

SD43 Visual Arts Educators
(LSA)



This workshop will cost \$12/person for supplies, invoices will be sent out and must be paid before the CTA PD day. Yellow forms cannot be used for reimbursement.

Maya- Please wear “art clothes (something you don’t mind getting ink on).”

Maya has working in both community and formal educational settings for the last 20 years - across a broad age range (Kindergarten to University.) In recent years, the majority of this teaching has involved working closely with 7-18 year olds (Arts Umbrella), university students (Emily Carr; UBC & UFV), and adults (freelance printmaking classes/mentorships.) Maya has an interdisciplinary art practice, which explores drawing, photography, printmaking and installation - most recently involving a great deal of work with the cyanotype process. Their teaching experience evolves a broad range of printmaking techniques, bookbinding, darkroom/alternative photography processes, and drawing/painting.

Introduction to cyanotype printing. This will include hands on activities so that teachers can learn and bring skills back to their classroom to share with their students.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



k'wík'wəłəm

Kwikwetlem First Nation

B- Kwikwetlem Nation Meet the Nation

- Nancy Joe, Kristina Joe, Chief and Council- Kwikwetlem First Nation

All Levels

Indigenous Education, Community Building

OFF-SITE SESSION: Arrive 12:30 – 12:45 am 2-65 Colony Farm Road, Colony Farm Road, Coquitlam, BC V3C 5X9

Nancy – Please “dress for the weather, and comfortable footwear for walking outside.”

Nancy Joe has been the Cultural Advisor for the k'wík'wəłəm Nation for the past several years.

Teachers will gather and be welcomed to the Kwikwetlem Lands at the Community Hall. From there they will be split into 3 groups and have a tour around the area, visiting the Transformation stone, the Canoe Shed, and hear stories of the river and the watershed.

This is a **'strictly limited'** workshop. Participants will park at the Colony Farm Community Gardens parking lot where volunteers will be waiting to accompany them to the Community Centre.

Please note that by registering you are consenting to have your name shared with the facilitators. If you can not make the session please unregister so that someone else can fill the spot, thank you.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

Learning for a Lifetime

B- Let Me Be Brief: Flash Fiction and Personal Essay in Your

Classroom

- Chuck Baker

Middle – Secondary

Creative Writing, English

Chuck- Please bring “something to write with.”

Ace Baker (Chuck Baker) is the author of two collections of short fiction, *How to Make a Killing Jar* and *Bathing in Fire*. His prose has won the Storyteller Award, PNWA awards, and has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize, the Journey Prize, and National Magazine awards, among others. He has been teaching creative writing for more than twenty years and is also a writing coach and developmental editor. A chapbook of his poetry, *Mosaic: Bright Lives, Broken*, will be published in March, 2026.

Small stories make a big impact. Join writer and educator Ace Baker for a dynamic workshop on teaching flash fiction and personal essay to middle school and high school English students. Get high-impact methods and useable materials to help them brainstorm, craft, revise, and submit their writing to real-world markets. Walk-throughs, examples, and tools you can use to bring a love of the short forms to your students.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

B- Literacy to Life: Making Meaningful Connections Between Literacy, STEM, Inquiry and Project-Based Learning
- Erin Caldwell & Susan Henderson

All levels
Library, Literacy, STEAM

Erin & Susan- Please bring “your laptop, your creativity and your curiosity.”

Erin and Susan are teacher-librarians in our district. They have collectively taught at elementary, middle and secondary levels. They love to encourage their colleagues and bring FUN into teaching.

Literacy to Life: come join your teacher-library colleagues as we explore how we can reinforce literacy through STEAM, Maker and inquiry projects. Part show and tell, part collaborative lesson development.

Sponsored by

Coquitlam Teacher-Librarian Association LSA



B- Meet Me at the Morgue (The Newspaper Morgue, that is)
- Lisa Read- Focused Education Resources

Intermediate - Adult
English, Graphic Design, History, Social Studies

Lisa- “Materials will be provided, but you may wish to bring a laptop or other device.”

Lisa is a member of the Professional Learning Team for Focused Resources-- who provide province-wide access to digital resources. Lisa is also a high school teacher, Apple Distinguished educator and Karaoke World Champion. She also has been known to exaggerate when talking about herself in the third person.

Experience the magic of travelling back in time, without investing in a DeLorean, and access thousands of historical BC Newspapers, going back far enough to be ahead by a century. All this, and more cultural references and stale memes in this immersive and fun session. Bring a concept from history that you would like to investigate-- or just come along for the ride.

Sponsored by

FOCUSED
EDUCATION RESOURCES

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

Coquitlam Music Teachers'
Association



B- Middle School Music Sharing Session

- Karl Kirkwallace

Middle
Music

Karl – Please bring “examples of what they are doing in their program.”

Karl is teaching music at Maillard Middle School. His program consists of Concert Band, Choir, Jazz Band, and Explorations (music composition, guitar, electronic music making)

This is a facilitated sharing session for middle school teachers teaching music to share the success stories from their programs (what's been exciting and working well in Explorations and off-time table music programs). It's also an opportunity to ask for help or inspiration to create more successful and engaging lessons.

B- NESTS For Educators: Supporting Teachers - Tuning Into the Classroom

- Kirsten Sherlock, Lea Morrison, Jennifer Lloyd, and Shannon Day

Primary - Adult
Health & Wellness, PHE

Kirsten- Please bring “a notebook if you would like to take notes.”

Behaviour
Goal



EAT FOR LIVING

LEA MORRISON

LIFT

NESTS for Educators is led by a diverse team dedicated to supporting teacher well-being in and out of the classroom. Kirsten Sherlock is a Registered Clinical Counsellor who specializes in trauma, anxiety and burnout- **Flourish Counselling**. Lea Morrison, Trauma Educator, Registered Therapeutic Counsellor, and Somatic Energy Practitioner teaches sustainable healing from complex trauma- **Lea Morrison Healing**. Jennifer Lloyd, a Registered Holistic Nutritionist empowers clients to boost energy and clarity through gut-focused nutrition- **Eat for Living**. Shannon Day, a certified personal trainer and owner of **LIFT Fitness** and Physiotherapy brings expertise in fitness, physiotherapy, and holistic movement. Together, they offer educators practical strategies to manage stress, enhance resilience and nurture both mind and body.

NESTS for Educators helps teachers thrive personally and professionally by promoting holistic well-being. Supporting teachers with practical strategies—such as breathwork, movement breaks, and emotional awareness practices, and much more—allows them to regulate their own nervous systems while creating calm, connected classrooms. NESTS emphasizes nutrition, sleep, exercise, time for self, support and stress management to maintain physical and mental health. When educators are nurtured and supported, they model resilience and emotional regulation for their students, enhancing both teaching and learning. By prioritizing teacher well-being, NESTS fosters a sustainable, positive, and emotionally aware educational environment that benefits educators and students alike.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

Environmental Educators LSA



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

B- The Outdoor Classroom: Building Consistent Routines and Expectations

- James McConville & Bethony Buckle

Intermediate – Secondary

Environmental Education, Outdoor Education

James & Bethony- Please “dress for the weather, we will be going outside for our activities.”

James is a middle school teacher at Eagle Mountain Middle who takes his students outside every week to connect nature with the classroom. Bethony is a French Immersion middle school teacher at Pitt River Middle who runs a weekly Outdoor Group.

Discover how to create a seamless transition between indoor and outdoor learning environments by establishing clear routines and expectations. In this session, we'll explore strategies for setting up outdoor spaces to function like a classroom, maintaining consistent behavioral expectations, and fostering a sense of community in nature-based learning. Participants will learn practical approaches such as starting in a circle, organizing activities with intentional timing, and using visual cues to support structure and engagement. Leave with actionable ideas to make your outdoor classroom a safe, organized, and inspiring space for learners.

B- Outdoor Education for Beginners

- Robyn Chambers

Kindergarten - Intermediate

Outdoor Education

Robyn is a retired teacher that has worked in the district for 30 years, and is currently enjoying the flexibility of being a TTOC. Although most known in Gifted Education, Outdoor Education is another passion. She enjoys encouraging teachers to get outside with their classes.

Want to feel confident taking your students outside? Want to feel that Outdoor Education is a valuable use of your time with your students? This workshop will review four different types of Outdoor Education. We will address overall philosophy, specific examples, and the nuts and bolts of Outdoor Education.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime



B- A Pacific NW Coast Experience: Part 2! A Coast Salish Minecraft World Combining Indigenous Teachings and STEAM

- Gavin Hanna

Primary – Secondary

First Peoples, Social Studies, STEAM

Gavin- Please bring “ A laptop (mouse helpful but not required) with the latest version of Minecraft Education. If needed, teachers can install MCEDU from the Microsoft Store: [Minecraft Education - Free download and install on Windows | Microsoft Store](#). Teachers can follow the link and click on "View in Store." The world and educator guides can be downloaded from: [A Pacific Northwest Coast Experience: Part 2 | Minecraft Education .](#)”

As an SD43 STEAM Support Teacher for the last 5 years, Gavin develops STEAM teaching and learning resources and supports teachers across the district with all things STEAM.

SD43 Indigenous Education and the STEAM Team have worked with the Kwikwetlem Nation and Logics Academy to create a new expanded version (Part 2!) of the original Pacific Northwest Coast Experience. This newly expanded Coast Salish world introduces students to the culture and teachings of the Coast Salish Peoples and can lead to rich, transdisciplinary STEAM learning. This new, expanded version includes a clam garden with a working tide, a trade journey along the grease trail to an interior village, an elusive sasquatch, and 5 more STEAM-focused build challenges! [A Pacific Northwest Coast Experience: Part 2 | Minecraft Education](#)

Sponsored by

Indigenous Education



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

B- Plant Walk

- Rob Cowie

All levels

Environment, Science

***Rob – Please “dress for the weather.”**

Rob Cowie has been an Indigenous Resource Teacher for the past 12 years, developing curriculum and supporting teachers in our and other districts.

Teachers will explore common plants and trees found in our region. Rob will share some stories which help teachers remember and engage their students while exploring the outdoors.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

B- Printing Like a Pro! and Fine Motor in the Classroom

- Ivonne Montgomery, Children's & Women's

Kindergarten - Primary

Learning to Print

***Ivonne – Please bring “a Laptop, ipad or cell phone to view and familiarize themselves with online resources:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10HX2aRs35wrnnP5B-F2EBcE5VQfdazH/view>.”***

Ivonne is an occupational therapist, who is now the Children's and Women's Hospitals and Health Centers OT Professional Practice Leader. In the past she worked in the SD43 school district which led to her interest in fine motor & printing difficulties. She completed her master's degree from UBC in 2017, including two research studies focusing on the free online printing program - Printing Like a Pro! that she created.

Printing Like a Pro! is an effective and easy to use program designed to support printing development of primary grade students. It is an extensive printing program, easily accessed through the internet, free of charge and ready to be implemented. Fine motor strategies as well as the printing program will be thoroughly presented, and materials available for individual/small or large classroom use.

B- Re-building Relational Responsibility with our Plant Relatives

- LoriAnn Bird (Snyder)- Earth and Company

All Levels

Art, Foods, History, Science



LoriAnn- Please bring “a notebook, camera and pens as well as appropriate clothing for the outdoors.”

LoriAnn is a Métis author, mother, herbalist, and educator, with a deep knowledge of medicinal and edible plants that grow in the most common and everyday spaces. Witnessing and listening to our immediate surroundings, we experience the relationship with all that exists. The teaching of reciprocity from the Rooted Nations who give of their life, with sustenance, and guidance, to us and so many other diverse relatives (species). In a time when our connection to the land on which we live grows ever more tenuous, LoriAnn offers us an opportunity to reconnect and reclaim our own history. Remembering the wisdom of ancestral relatives who, for thousands of years, were nourished by lands and waters to care deeply for its gifts for future generations. Let's be good ancestors. Find more info and her new book Revered Roots, Ancient Wisdom and Teachings on Wild, Native and Medicinal Plants. <https://loriannbird.ca/about/>

We will meet in the classroom and introduce ourselves to then wander outside as we explore our relational responsibility to our living world. Who are our Plant Relatives, who teach, nourish and substance our existence. We will connect through stories, knowledge and science. The sharing of relevant information using our senses with samples that LoriAnn will provide. This is an interactive presentation helping us to expand the reciprocal exchange that needs to be remembered for future generations.

B- Screenagers: Next Chapter → Addressing Youth Mental Health in the Digital Age

- Carol Todd

Intermediate - Secondary

Digital Safety, Mental Health, PHE, Positive Well Being

Carol - Please bring “yourself and an open mind.”

Carol Todd serves as the Coordinator of Digital Literacy and Supportive Technologies for School District 43. She is a passionate advocate for online safety and responsible technology use, working tirelessly to keep children safer in digital spaces. With extensive expertise in digital literacy and assistive technologies, Carol provides educators and families with practical strategies, resources, and training that foster awareness and informed decision-making. Her efforts extend beyond classrooms into the broader community, promoting mental wellness, cyberbullying prevention, and positive digital citizenship. Through her leadership, Carol empowers others to create safer, more inclusive online environments for youth.

Screenagers: The Next Chapter is a compelling documentary by physician and filmmaker Dr. Delaney Ruston that examines the impact of social media and excessive screen time on teen mental health, including anxiety, stress, and depression. Drawing from her own family's experiences and stories from diverse households, Ruston presents practical, evidence-based strategies—such as building emotional resilience, improving communication, and implementing school-based supports—that help empower teens, parents, and educators. Following the screening, there will be an engaging discussion to explore key insights and actionable steps.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

B- Small Groups for Big Reading Success

- Debra Vanderwood, Carleen Liski & Nicole Cherry

Kindergarten - Intermediate

Inclusive Education, Literacy, LST's

Carleen Liski is a Learning Support teacher and Nicole Cherry is a primary teacher at Birchland. Both have a wide variety of experience and a passion for striving to help students be the best they can be. Deb Vanderwood is a Curriculum Coordinator for Early Learning in the district.

Small group instruction is an empowering approach that builds on the diverse strengths of learners while supporting their growth. Join us to explore how one school designed a flexible and responsive structure where classroom teachers and learning support staff collaborated to maximize student potential and ensure success for all within a Tier 1 environment.

Audience: K-5 classroom teachers and LST's



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



B- Soapstone Carving

- Victoria Eftimova, Phoebe O'Shea & Paola Camacho

- Studiostone Creative

Primary - Adult

STEAM, Art

This workshop will cost \$19/person for supplies, invoices will be sent out and must be paid before the CTA PD day. Yellow forms cannot be used for reimbursement.

Studiostone Creative partners with schools locally and across Canada and the USA to bring hands-on stone carving into the classroom. Our programs support teachers with curriculum-aligned projects that build creativity, confidence, and fine-motor skills. Founded by local sculptor Oliver Harwood, we're dedicated to making the art of carving accessible, inspiring, and achievable for every student.

In this workshop, you'll learn how to carve a soapstone **Rabbit** starting from a pre-cut shape, making the process approachable for all skill levels. With guidance throughout, you'll use hand files and sandpaper to round the form, refine details, and smooth the surface. Once the shaping is complete, we'll finish the sculpture with a natural polish that brings out the stone's vibrant, one-of-a-kind colours and patterns. By the end, you'll leave with a beautiful hand-carved piece.

B- Southside Community Collaboration

- Jeremy Baerg & Greg Schellenberg

Kindergarten - Secondary

Cross-Curricular

This will be a teacher-led workshop facilitated by Jeremy Baerg and Greg Schellenberg, who are both Vice-Principals at Riverside Secondary.

This will be a teacher-led collaboration space for creating cross-level dialogue/projects to increase engagement, passion, connection across all levels. The focus will be on Southside schools but all are welcome to participate.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

Learning for a Lifetime

[**Return to Grade Level Index**](#)

[**Return to Subject Index**](#)



B- Spotting Deep Fakes and Fact Checking

- Tara Olchowy & Andrew Ruditsch

Middle - Adult

Cross-Curricular, Digital Learning, English, Science, Social Studies

Tara & Andrew- Please bring “a laptop.”

Andrew and Tara teach Applications of Digital Learning at Centennial Secondary. Andrew also teaches Social Studies, while Tara specializes in English. This year, they created and delivered a 4-5 day lesson series on AI and spotting deepfakes—work they believe is essential in the fight against today’s rapidly spreading misinformation. With misleading content becoming increasingly common and difficult to regulate, the ability to recognize misinformation has never been more important.

In this session, we’ll explore why it’s essential for students to approach online information with healthy skepticism. You’ll learn practical observation strategies that help students question what they see in articles and videos, as well as investigative techniques for checking the credibility of both the information and its source. We’ll walk you through analyzing a popular social media or internet claim to determine whether it’s real or a fake, and share ideas for a student project that transforms a PowerPoint presentation into an .mp4 video.

B- Streamlining Reporting Using Microsoft 365 Tools Part 2

- Nick De Vita

All levels

Cross-Curricular

Nick- Please bring “computers with access to Microsoft 365.”

Nick De Vita is primarily a k-12 music educator, with 15 years of experience, currently teaching secondary music and performing arts at Pinetree Secondary. Throughout those 15 years he has taught in a variety of capacities including but not limited to middle core classroom, student services, EAL and Career Education. Nick is passionate about collaboration and sharing resources, methods and processes that help teachers with their professional development and students with their learning.

This is the continuation of a workshop offered last year by Jocelyn Deck on Streamlining Reporting Using Office 365 Tools for assessment and reporting. In this workshop we will discuss best practices for assessment and reporting with scoring core and curricular competencies on the proficiency scale using accessible strength-based language. We will then explore recent advances in Microsoft 365 tools to assist with record keeping, giving student feedback, and automating the learning summary process for report card writing. This workshop will also touch on MyEd tools as an introduction to possible future workshops on using MyEd tools.

Sponsored by

SD43 Learning Services



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

B- Supporting Striving Readers in Middle School

- Karla Allan, Alexa Charles, & Brenda Kossack

Middle
Literacy

Alexa Charles is a Mentor Support Teacher with a focus on Literacy. Brenda Kossack is the Grade 4-8 District Literacy Centre teacher and Karla Allan is the Coordinator of Literacy and Core Competencies. With combined experiences in classroom and learning support roles we are committed to providing opportunities for meaningful learning conversations.

The SD43 Literacy team is hosting a middle school sharing session for all teachers to gather to talk about what's working around supporting striving readers in our classes. Attendees will be asked to share about what they've been doing, what's working, and what some next steps might be to continue to support all learners. This is a session built on the work started last year together and all middle teachers are welcome to join us. We look forward to connecting, sharing, and learning from each other.

B- Teaching Core French? Start Here!

- Kayleigh MacMillan & Andrea O'Neill

Intermediate - Middle
Core French

Kayleigh & Andrea- Please bring “something to write with.”

Andrea is the Mentoring Support Teacher for French Immersion and Core French in SD43. She taught for the majority of her career at the middle school level. She is very passionate about teaching French. Kayleigh is a linguist and a grade 7 Late French Immersion Teacher. She has strong backgrounds in first language acquisition, second language acquisition, and language disorders. She is a certified and proud language nerd.

This session is designed for teachers of grade 4 to 8 core French. In the session, teachers will be provided with a tool kit of ideas to teach core French that can be used even if they do not speak the language. We will examine scope and sequence for their specific grade. And, they will also be provided with guided collaboration and planning time.



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



B- Teaching Friendship Skills with the PEERS Curriculum

- Leah Mumford

Primary - Secondary

Cross-Curricular, Inclusive Education

Leah- Please bring “pen and paper.”

Leah Mumford is the district Behavior Analyst for SD43. Leah's work focuses on empowering school teams to support students with Autism, and the adults who support them, by strengthening rapport, building skills, and reducing challenging behaviors.

Many students that we support indicate that they would like to make more friends and could benefit from learning friendship skills. However, trying to find the “what” and “how” for teaching these skills can be challenging for educators. This presentation will focus on “PEERS for Schools” - a manualized curriculum for teaching foundational social skills to help students make and keep friends. Both the Middle/Secondary school manual and a version for younger grades will be discussed.

Sponsored by

**VANCOUVER
HOLOCAUST
EDUCATION
CENTRE**

B- Teaching the Holocaust: New Resources and Strategies for the BC Curriculum

- Lise Kirchner – [Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre](#)

Middle - Secondary

English, Social Studies

As Director of Education, Lise Kirchner leads the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre's resource and curriculum development, school programs, and teacher training initiatives. Lise has worked with the VHEC for over two decades, beginning as a volunteer lawyer assisting Holocaust survivors with restitution claims in the 1990s. Since that time, she has gained extensive experience in the development and delivery of Holocaust education and the curation of exhibitions. Her work has also included projects to enhance the accessibility and pedagogical use of the VHEC's collection of artefacts and Holocaust testimonies. Prior to joining the staff of the VHEC, Lise practised law in Vancouver, specializing in labour, employment and human rights.

The Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre's new online teaching resource "[Fragments in Focus: The History of the Holocaust](#)" is a fully bilingual website developed to align with the BC Social Studies curriculum. The Ministry of Education supports this work and features Fragments in Focus as a resource for BC classrooms. This session will introduce educators to the features of the Fragments website and provide practical strategies for engaging students in inquiry-based learning about the Holocaust, combining historical context with guided analysis of primary sources. Participants will receive ready-to-use lesson plans and resources covering:

- The Power of Objects: Teaching with Primary Sources
- Defining the Holocaust
- Using the Fragments in Focus website in the classroom.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Sponsored by

Technology Education LSA



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)
Learning for a Lifetime

B- Technology Ed Discussion and Share

- Peter Orlandi

Middle – Secondary
Technology Education

OFFSITE SESSION: Taking place at CABE SECONDARY

Peter- Please bring “your projects, resources, handouts, photos of setups etc.”

Peter Orlandi is with the Tech Ed LSA. Peter is a Tech Ed teacher who has taught at both the middle and secondary level.

We can share projects, plans, ideas. We can discuss about recent safety trends. The agenda is flexible, please e-mail me your thoughts and ideas to porlandi@sd43.bc.ca

If you plan on attending, please e-mail me directly as I will try to arrange for coffee and muffins. Come see the workspace at CABE. Bring your projects, photos, resources to share.

B- Transformative Curriculum for Change

- Maureen Jack-LaCroix & Daphne Chalmers- [Be The Change](#)
[Earth Alliance](#)



Middle - Secondary
Cross-Curricular, Environmental, Health, Science, SEL, Social Studies

Maureen- Please “pre-register for SLC free resources at [REGISTER.](#)”

Maureen Jack-LaCroix is an engaging facilitator with 19 years of experience as an environmental educator and facilitator of Dr. Macy's 'Work That Reconnects'. Maureen has a Masters in Eco-Psychology and PhD in Eco-Social Education from SFU. As the Education Director and co-founder of BTCEA, she led the co-creation of Student Leadership for Change learning resources with Metro-Vancouver teachers. Maureen loves exploring different ways to engage in transformative education through reflective, critical, experiential and place-based learning that empowers students to meet today's challenging eco-social issues. Maureen finds meaning in her life's work, joy with her cherished family, and gratitude for the natural beauty of her home on Galiano Island, the ancestral and unceded land of the Penelakut people.

There's a lot going on in the world today... and it's causing anxiety for all of us! Join this session to discover creative ways for you and your students to relieve this anxiety by exploring issues that impact our social and environmental well-being. Help your students develop critical thinking with journaling, sit-spots and reflective dialogue with peers. Access free learning resources with a curated library of videos, articles, actions and classroom activities that can be used in Socials, Science, Health, English and Careers! Come prepared to engage with colleagues to gain a deeper connection with yourself and each other, while exploring systems and solutions for today. We will experience progressive pedagogical approaches that can bring your classroom to Life!

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

B- Turning Your Classroom into the House of Commons

- Grant McNally

Intermediate - Secondary

Social Studies

Grant has been a teacher in Coquitlam for thirty-seven years, taking a seven year break to serve as a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons from 1997 to 2004. He has spent most of his career teaching at the upper intermediate level in elementary school but also spent five years teaching grade seven, and one year teaching middle school in California. He is currently teaching grade 4/5 at Cedar Drive Elementary.

Come and learn about a fun, interactive activity that helps teach students about the federal level of government from the inside out. Participants will become Members of Parliament during the session and will be randomly assigned to the government or opposition. You will pick leaders and present a short speech to each other using a preselected set of policies around 3 main topics: gum chewing, school hours, and uniforms. We will also conduct a question period and you will get a chance to find out why emotions always boil to the top in Ottawa! Having done this activity with students for many years they always are asking for more.

B- Weaving Wellness into the Classroom

- Michelle Meier- Asher Wellness Group

Middle – Secondary

SEL



Michelle- Please bring “Just yourselves and perhaps a notebook.”

Michelle Meier is a Registered Clinical Counsellor in Langley, BC, dedicated to supporting teens & adults through life's complexities. Michelle specializes in creating a healing space for individuals dealing with anxiety, relationship conflict, self-esteem struggles, life transitions, and athletic mental performance. Michelle brings a wealth of experience, holding a B.Sc., B.Ed., and a Master's degree in Counselling. Prior to her current practice, she spent 13 years as a high school teacher/counsellor, working extensively with youth. In her practice, Michelle prioritizes a safe, non-judgmental space, fostering connection through a client-centered approach that incorporates cognitive behavioural, solution-focused, and strength-based therapies.

This workshop provides essential skills to support students struggling with anxiety. We will explore the individual narratives behind student anxiety and equip you with conversational strategies necessary for meaningful dialogue with your learners about their worries. You will learn practical techniques to understand and effectively address a student's unique anxiety experience, moving beyond surface-level management. The session emphasizes fostering inclusive, empathetic learning environments where students feel understood, leading directly to improved emotional regulation, connection, and overall student well-being in your classroom.



B- Why and How Math: Hands-On Visual Math Teaching Strategies for Middle School Teachers Who Are Secretly a Bit Afraid of Math

- Midori Fujita & Justin Oei

Middle
Math (Grade 7 and 8 Concepts)

Midori- Please bring “pencil, paper and computer.”

Midori: “Math stopped making sense to me around Grade 9 back in Japan where I grew up. I was re-united with Math and started to love teaching Math when I worked with my mentor teacher in Ottawa during my Practicum. She made the concept of Fractions and Integers (especially the concept of zero) both make sense to me using Area Models and Integer Tiles. From there, Dr. Liljedahl's collaborative vertical wall work inspired me to continue bringing “questioning” and collaboration into my Math classroom. I would like to share how we can potentially continue to push kiddos to explain (and provide proof) how and why mathematical concepts, formulas, and rules work.”

Justin: “I started my career teaching math and science at secondary school. I made the choice recently to teach at the Middle school level to learn more about the profession and to look for how education is delivered for the Middle grades. I also found that the Middle School level allowed for me to explore a variety of teaching methods and approaches while also spending more time with students throughout the year to observe academic achievement and progress. I see it as an opportunity to hone my craft while also learning more ways to address the needs of the learners in our community.”

We will be using Dr. Liljedahl's collaborative vertical wall work to investigate some of the mathematical concepts and formulas so that we can investigate how we can provide (or improve on our abilities to provide) visual representations and proof of a given concept or a formula for our students.

Examples of questions:

- How best can we visualize Integer Operations using Integer Tiles as well as zero pairs
- How do we explain the logic behind $(-6) - 7 = ???$ Starting point? How best to show on a numberline & using the Integer Tiles?
- How can we best visualize finding common dominators between 2 fractions?
 - Represent $\frac{1}{4}$ of $\frac{5}{6}$ using an Area Model
- How can we best visualize $2x + 6 = -3x + 21$ using Algebra Tiles?
- How can we show how to operate division without using Long Division?
- How can we show how to do multiplication without using the stacked method
- One real-life based Inquiry Task at the end

B- Windows and Microsoft Accessibility Tools

- Maria Romanelli & Carol Lum - SET-BC



Intermediate – Adult

Cross-Curricular, Inclusive Education

Carol and Maria have been teachers with the Vancouver School Board for twenty years, where they have supported students in both classroom and resource settings. At SET-BC, they now focus on improving literacy and inclusion for all students, through the use of assistive technology.

This workshop will explore built-in and free reading and writing tools to support literacy. When working on a laptop, these built-in tools allow students to access information, make annotations, create and edit their own writing. Some supports include: dictation, predictive text, text-to-speech online and in Word, annotation of PDFs for assignment completion, and the reduction of visual distractions from websites. These tools align with the principles of UDL as they will benefit all students. Come explore them with us.

This is a hands-on workshop – laptops provided.

B- Working With English Language Learners

- Caz Davidson, Rosalita Faccione, & Gabriella Licsko

Intermediate - Middle

Cross-Curricular, First Peoples, STEAM



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

Learning for a Lifetime

The SD43 ELL team are experienced, knowledgeable, and passionate multilingual advocates. Their engaging presentations share essential, practical, and research-based strategies and activities for elementary, middle, and secondary teachers of English language learners.

Join the SD43 ELL team for an engaging session on multilingual activities and strategies.

[**Return to Grade Level Index**](#)

[**Return to Subject Index**](#)

B- Yoga Tools for Teachers

- Bryony Ollier- The Yoga Buggy



The Yoga Buggy

Kindergarten - Intermediate

PHE, SEL

Bryony – Please bring “yourselves! A notebook would be helpful.”

Bryony is passionate about helping young people develop tools to navigate life's challenges with more calm, confidence, and resilience. She has developed and delivered a range of professional development workshops for educators—including music-and-yoga-based sessions for Early Childhood Educators. She has also presented “yoga In the classroom” at many Teacher Association Conferences and schools; empowering hundreds of teachers to bring simple, meaningful practices into their classrooms. Her goal is to support both teachers and students through techniques that can be used throughout the school day, planting lasting seeds for emotional regulation and well-being.

An engaging, well-paced workshop filled with practical tools, playful yoga games, and creative ways to bring mindfulness and movement into the classroom. See how traditional songs and poses can be adapted for school settings. A truly inspiring experience that supports both educators and kids in building body awareness, breath, and self-regulation. Includes activities to energize/calm, transition activities, breathwork, relaxation ideas, Yoga Asana (Postures), how to adapt for diverse bodies, spaces and ages, and more!

CANCELLED

[**Return to Grade Level Index**](#)

[**Return to Subject Index**](#)

Session C Workshops – 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

C- 3D Design Using Tinkercad and Fusion 360

- Richard Cooper

Middle – Secondary

STEAM



School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

Learning for a Lifetime

Richard- Please bring “ a laptop and mouse. Also, create an account before the session with Tinker and Fusion 360.”

Richard: “I'm a secondary science teacher at Pinetree Secondary. I've been exploring 3d design and 3d printing for the past decade, and am always on the lookout for the next great technology trend to dive into. Come geek out with me and let's do some 3D designing and 3D printing!”

This two-part workshop will focus on the core ideas of 3D design using Tinkercad and Fusion 360. (Attendees are requested to have created an account before arriving, and bring a laptop & mouse if possible). We will explore Tinkercad and dive into 3D modelling fundamentals in the first session. The attendee's models will be fabricated through the day, and will be used as a basics of slicing software use. The models created will be available for pickup at the end of the day. In the second session, a deeper dive into more advanced 3D design will take place using Fusion 360. We will also do some Q&A on slicing and printer management.

C- 6 Ways to Reduce Classroom Chaos- and Actually Enjoy Teaching Again

- Dr. Suzanne Simpson

All levels

Compassionate Care, Mental Health, SEL

Dr. Suzanne Simpson

Dr. Suzanne- Please bring “a notepad if you wish to take notes.”

Dr. Suzanne Simpson is an educator, mother, speaker, and podcaster. She taught French Immersion for two decades and worked at an inpatient youth psychiatric unit supporting teens in crisis. Her research focuses on connection and secure attachment. Suzanne is passionate about sharing practical tools that help parents and educators strengthen communication, build trust, and support teen mental health. She is host of the “Get on Their Turf” podcast. You can find Suzanne at www.drsuzannesimpson.com

Teaching doesn't have to feel like constant crisis management. This session offers six clear, practical strategies to restore balance in the classroom and make each day feel more manageable. Educators learn how to respond to behaviour with calm authority, re-establish routines that lower tension, and support students' needs without burning out. You'll leave with tools that bring steadiness, confidence, and genuine enjoyment back to teaching.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



C- Budget-Friendly Needle Felting: Fun For Every Age

- Trina Munday

All levels

Cross-Curricular, Art, SEL

Trina: "As a middle school educator for 28 years, I've loved discovering creative ways to bring art into the classroom. My focus has always been on projects that are budget-friendly, accessible, and engaging for all students, ensuring that creativity is never limited by cost. Needle felting has become one of my favorite approaches—simple, affordable, and fun for any age group."

Discover how to bring the art of needle felting into your classroom without breaking the budget! In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn affordable techniques, practical tips, and creative tricks to make needle felting accessible for students of any age. Explore a variety of projects—from 3D critters to painting with wool on fabric—perfect for holidays, special events, or everyday creativity. By the end, you'll have the confidence and ideas to spark artistic joy in your students while keeping costs low.

Sponsored by

Drama Teachers of SD43



C- Crosspoints in the Classroom: Practical Tools for Teaching Drama

- Dr. Stephen Atkins

Middle – Secondary

Drama

Dr. Stephen- Please bring “an open mind, clothes that move, collaborative energy.”

Stephen Atkins (PhD) is an actor, acting teacher, and director who leads workshops and teacher training across the UK, EU, USA, and Australia. Recently featured in *New York Weekly*, Stephen's work blends psychophysical training from multiple sources, improvisation, and performance theory to support actors in building intuitive, relational scores for stage and screen, devised work, and contemporary text. Stephen's recent contribution to the Association of BC Drama Educators conference was enthusiastically received and LSA teachers requested more from him! (Stephen's Crosspoints resources can also be purchased easily online for use in practice.)

This three-hour workshop introduces teachers to the Crosspoints card deck as a flexible way to guide students through scene work, improvisation, and character exploration. We'll go through simple scaffolding to help learners focus, collaborate, and make clear choices in character without getting stuck in abstract ideas. The session is fun and engaging, giving participants a chance to do, and to use hexagonal thinking, encouraging connection-making and shared problem solving. You'll leave with adaptable, classroom-ready exercises and pliable assessment ideas for middle school and secondary school Drama settings.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)



C- Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada Tips and Techniques

- Jo-Ann Dykstra & José Luis Aranda

Adult

Adult Education, EAL

Jo-Ann Dykstra is a Coquitlam Continuing Education Coordinator who works closely with the LINC program. She has twenty-five years of experience teaching adult newcomers' language and information focused on settlement. José Luis Aranda is a LINC Instructor and PBLA Lead at Coquitlam Continuing Education. He has extensive experience supporting adult newcomers to Canada through language instruction, employment counselling, and settlement services. He is also a Registered Clinical Counsellor.

CANCELLED

We will consider the purpose and goals of the program, the target learners and settlement context. We will also provide an overview of the Canadian Language Benchmarks and Portfolio-based Language Assessment. Then we will break down what an Instructional Planning Cycle should look like, including needs assessment, module planning (using backwards design and real-world tasks), skill building vs skill using activities, assessment, feedback and reflection. Finally, we will look at managing multi-level classes and tips for reducing prep time. This workshop is ideal for teachers new to Adult Ed as well as those already working in the program or field who would like to share their expertise.

C- Supporting the Developing Brain: Understanding Complex Trauma, Attachment and Emotion Coaching

- Jena Lavoie & Chelsea Park

All levels

Trauma/Mental Health



Jena & Chelsea- Please bring "anything that you would like to take notes with."

Jena and Chelsea are clinicians with the North Fraser Integrated Practice Team with Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH). The Integrated Practice Team (IPT) is a specialized team that provides intervention, training, education, and guidance to children and youth, as well as their systems of care and support. The team is trauma-focused, viewing behaviour through an attachment and trauma-informed lens, and using a care team-based approach. IPT sees the child or youth and their entire support system as the recipient of care, with a primary focus on serving children and youth in foster care.

Both Jena and Chelsea bring extensive experience supporting the mental health needs of children and youth in various roles, including front-line support services, clinical support, and therapeutic interventions. Their work has included supporting families, schools and the broader systems surrounding children.

Children and youth impacted by complex trauma often present with challenges in emotional regulation, behaviour, and relationships that can feel overwhelming at times for professionals. This session will explore how trauma affects the developing brain and why meeting attachment needs is critical for healing and resilience. Participants will learn how to view behaviour through a trauma-informed and attachment-focused lens and discover practical strategies to support emotional growth. The session will highlight Emotion Coaching, a therapeutic approach that fosters emotional awareness, regulation, and connection which are key components for helping children and youth thrive.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)

Session D Local Bargaining Information –

2:45 p.m. LIBRARY



Coquitlam Teachers'
Association

D- Local Bargaining Information Session

- Meggan Crawford, 2nd Vice President

CTA Members

Please register so that we have an idea of expected numbers, thank you

Join the CTA to get the latest updates on the status of provincial bargaining.

[Return to Grade Level Index](#)

[Return to Subject Index](#)