

### SD42 Bimonthly Sustainability and Energy Management Newsletter

An initiative by the SD42 facilities department of Energy and Environmental Sustainability

ISSUE NO. 1 - MAY/JUNE 2024

### **About Us**

Sustainability is one of the largest movements of our time and students will have a key role to play. The Energy and Environmental Sustainability Department at Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District works with BC Hydro, FortisBC, and CleanBC to make schools more efficient by reducing our carbon footprint and operating costs.

This newsletter is designed to share the district's sustainability initiatives with the community. Throughout the district, students and staff are taking action to make our schools, our community, and our world more sustainable.

We want to know what you are doing and how you are doing it. We are always looking for more stories and would like to give students the opportunity to write for this new bimonthly newsletter.

### **Calendar of Sustainable Events**

#### JUNE

Bike-to-school week (June 3 – 9)

Schools across B.C. are invited to participate in *Bike to School Week* from **June 3 to 9** to reduce emissions and promote physical activity.

Summer Holiday Shutdown Campaign

Participate in our district's Summer Holiday Shutdown Campaign. We will be running a competition to shut down our schools for the summer break.

## Congratulations to the graduating class of 2024!

The Energy and Environmental Sustainability Department would like to congratulate all SD42 graduating students!

We believe and trust that you will be part of the change required to prepare us for a net-zero carbon world.

The Green Economy is already one of the fastest-growing employment sectors and will continue to expand over the next few decades. BC aims to become net zero by 2050, creating opportunities in many areas, including:

- Energy efficiency
- Clean & alternate energy
- Clean technology
- Nature conservation
- Sustainable transportation
- Green buildings & construction
- Water conservation



We hope you will consider a career dedicated to working toward our common goals.

## **Spring Holiday Shutdown Campaign**

The Energy and Environmental Sustainability Department organized a Spring Holiday Shutdown Campaign to engage students in energy conservation and teach them best practices they can use in their lives.

Participating teachers and students filled out a checklist of equipment they unplugged or turned off to ensure there was no unnecessary energy use in schools while the buildings were empty over spring break. Schools that performed exceptionally well were rewarded with a pizza lunch.

Thanks to all schools that participated. Harry Hooge Elementary and Davie Jones Elementary emerged as winners of the campaign.



Spring Holiday Shutdown Campaign









## **Earth Day Celebration Stickers**

To promote sustainability across the district in celebration of Earth Day on April 22, the Energy and Environmental Sustainability Department distributed "sustainability star" and "sustainability leader" stickers to students.

We distributed 4000 stickers between 11 schools. I want to thank all the administrators who ordered from us and made this initiative a success.





# Bike-to-School Week (June 3 - 9)

GoByBike BC Society is organizing a province-wide Bike-to-School Week from June 3 to 9 to encourage students to discover the joy of riding their bikes, scooters, or other forms of active transportation. By participating, students will promote physical activity, reduce carbon emissions, and build school spirit. Students, teachers, and schools will have the chance to win some awesome prizes.

Please see the information booklet at <u>GoByBike Week School Guide</u> to learn more about this event.



# What is going on at your school?

If you or your school is doing something that will help sustain our environment, we want to hear about it and share it in our newsletter. Please contact:

 Ashish Dev, SD42 Energy and Environmental Sustainability Manager. ashish dev@sd42.ca