

Good News

June 9, 2015

SHALL WE DANCE?

On May 27th, Burnaby South and the BCSD hosted *WanderLust*, their year-end dance festival at the MJF Theatre. Under the direction of teacher **Christina Wilson**, the show included a variety of dance genres performed by grade 8 to 12 dance students of all abilities. Highlights included the all Deaf dance class from the BC Provincial School for the Deaf, soloists from the Dance Choreography Program and a special video project that was a collaboration between the dance and media arts disciplines. The theatre was close to capacity, and students, staff, the administration team and Trustee **Larry Hayes** all enjoyed the high calibre performance.

> For a sampling of the soiree click [here](#)

HATS-OFF DAY

The sun was shining and it was a scorcher for the annual *Heights Hats Off Day* event last weekend. It all kicked off with the 3rd Annual Family Fun Dash in support of the Firefighters' Fund. The popular parade followed, featuring a crowd favourite, Burnaby North's Viking Marching Band, led by a contingency of proud trustees including **Harman Pandher, Katrina Chen, Meiling Chia, Baljinder Narang and Gary Wong**. In the afternoon, Alpha's jazz band provided entertainment.

BUTTON BLANKET LINKS CULTURES

On May 28th, Lochdale Community School hosted its 35th Multicultural celebration of learning assembly and dinner. The highlight of the event was the blessing and commemoration of the school's button blanket, to recognize Lochdale's Aboriginal connections. The blanket has been a labour of love for a number of years, and children and parents of all ages and nationalities have contributed to its creation. It will also play a special role of significance in tomorrow night's Aboriginal Education graduation ceremony.

RECOGNIZING GREAT DESIGN

Burnaby South students enrolled in the new Applied Interdisciplinary Design course made a splash in the *20th Annual Sears DX Canadian High School Design Competition*. Their task was to design a portable chair for college students to use in a small shared living space. Grade 10 students **Anthony Yuen** and **Pearl Perara** came in 2nd place in the Junior Division. Two other South teams placed in the top 5, one in the Junior Division and one in the Senior Division. All of the finishers received a certificate of achievement and were invited to attend a mentorship luncheon in Toronto to connect with industry professionals. Special thanks to instructors **Kent Lui** and **Doreen Leo** for their inspiration and encouragement.

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ART OF PHYSICS

When Burnaby North grade 11 student **Jonathan Lew** set out to prove that art and physics are one, he won second place in the Canadian Association of Physicists Art of Physics contest, in the "International Year of Light" category. The aim of this annual competition is to stimulate interest, especially among non-scientists, with some of the captivating imagery associated with physics. The challenge is to capture a beautiful or unusual physics phenomenon in a photograph and explain it in less than 200 words so that everyone can understand it. Jonathan's photograph depicting reflection in glass at Chihuly Garden and Glass in Seattle, will be exhibited at the upcoming National Conference of the Canadian Association of Physicists.

>To view his winning image, click [here](#)

PHYSICS ENCORE

Two Burnaby Schools students placed amongst the top 10 students in the 2015 Sir Isaac Newton Exam. Students from Canada, USA and abroad write this annual exam that is offered by the Department of Physics at the University of Waterloo.

Congratulations to **Federico Firoozi** from Burnaby South who came in 3rd place and **Ray Zhang** from Cariboo Hill who garnered a 10th position. Congratulations are also extended to **Tao Jin** from Burnaby North who was 77th.

AUBREY MURAL PROJECT

Aubrey's ambitious mural project was feted with a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 4th. It has been an exciting project for the whole Aubrey community where students, staff and families have had the opportunity to work with artist **Todd Polich**, first creating the vision and then painting it. Many thanks for the PAC's support in making this vision become a reality. Watch for the welcoming masterpiece complete with soaring eagles, bears, fish, bees and butterflies the next time you are driving on Curtis Street. It will be enjoyed for many years to come.

A LUAU OF THANKS

As the school year winds down there are multiple events happening to recognize school volunteers, parents and staff alike. One greatly anticipated event at Westridge Elementary is the annual Staff Appreciation Lunch, as the parents try to outdo last year's committee. An outdoor luau was planned, but the weather didn't cooperate. Thanks to the hard work of dedicated parent volunteers, the library was transformed into a tiki bar, complete with DJ, flowers and food galore. **Trustee Katrina Chen** took a special 'Hawaiian Air' flight in, to join the festivities.

And in closing I'd like to give a special shout out of congratulations to Burnaby schools' own soccer star, Team Canada's Captain Christine Sinclair, for her winning goal in the opening match of the FIFA Women's World Cup Canada 2015. You make us proud!