

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, January 10, 2012

1. Children Helping Children – Aubrey Elementary Toy Drive

Dominik Svorinic, a grade 7 student from Aubrey Elementary School attended the *Me to We Day* in October and was inspired to do something to make a difference in his community. The day inspired and celebrated youth and focussed on children helping children. Dominik did just that. He asked his friends, Miranda Ta, Bassam Nima and Luke Lortie to join him in his campaign to collect toys to support *BC Children's Hospital* and *Helping Families in Need*, a local Burnaby charity.

The four students presented their idea at a school assembly, made posters to promote their campaign and began collecting new and gently used toys. On December 16, Principal, Shelley Parks, along with Dominik, Miranda, Bassam and Luke, delivered 10 bags of new toys to *BC Children's Hospital* and 10 bags of gently used toys to *Helping Families in Need*, on behalf of the Aubrey Elementary community.

This evening, trustees will hear from Principal, Shelley Parks and students Dominik Svorinic, Miranda Ta, Bassam Nima and Luke Lortie about their inspiring story of children helping children.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. The Provincial Outreach Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students

The Provincial Outreach Program assists school districts throughout British Columbia in providing appropriate programs for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. Through collaborative consultation, the Outreach Program strives to address, support and meet the unique communication and learning styles of Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. Outreach promotes goals of academic and language development, literacy and social responsibility, encouraging students to become responsible contributing members of both the Deaf and Hearing communities.

The program supports students, parents and schools with services including assessments, consultations and, when appropriate, transitioning into special programs such as the BC School for the Deaf. In addition, educational professionals are supported via professional development and educational programming. The Annual Optimist International Communication Competition for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing students is always a highlight, and expanding the use of American Sign Language (ASL) in Burnaby and in communities across the province has been a success.

This evening, Lisa Meneian-Cecile, Vice-Principal, will present information about the supports and services provided by the Provincial Outreach Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students in collaboration with the Burnaby school district, and with communities and school districts throughout the province.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.