

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Monday, January 23, 2017

1. Reader's Theatre

Across Canada, January 23 – 27 is recognized as Literacy Week, with students, staff and family members participating in a variety of literacy initiatives. Strong literacy and essential skills are key to success at school and in the workplace.

During this week Burnaby school students will be involved in numerous activities from collecting gently used books for distribution, participating in Reading Trivia, dressing up as favorite book characters, writing self-reflections, engaging in drama classes, as well as many other literacy initiatives across the curriculum. Guests have also been invited to read in classrooms in many of our elementary schools.

This evening, Jennifer Araujo, Teacher-Librarian at South Slope Elementary School will provide an overview of the initiatives, events and activities planned during Literacy Week. Deborah Borgenstrom, Grade 6/7 teacher, will introduce leadership students Esther Escobedo, Andy Hong, Zarah Jawid, Ethan Meek, Cayleigh Revitt, Esther Wang, Cleo Zeng and Zoriana Zuvic who will present a Reader's Theatre selection.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

2. Marsville Colonization Project

Grade 6/7 students from Division 3 at Montecito Elementary School undertook an ambitious integrated project last term to colonize Mars. After discussing the most pressing needs for settlement, the students divided themselves into inquiry teams representing oxygen, water, food, energy, communication, transportation, radiation and waste management. Teams researched how each chosen system worked on Earth, before turning their sights to the conditions on Mars. After looking at the challenges, each team came up with a plan to address the concerns and ensure the safety of the citizens. On November 30, 2016, the first colony on Mars was successfully constructed.

Tonight, Holly Lloyd, Head Teacher and teacher Liz Ward will provide an overview of the project and introduce student guests who will share their learning around the processes that led to the success of this project.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.