

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, February 14, 2012

1. Mandarin Language Arts Program

The Mandarin Language Arts Program at Forest Grove is into its second year with students enrolled in Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes. The core curriculum is taught in English, with Mandarin language learning threaded through song, stories and play. Students are acquiring skills in Mandarin oral communication and basic reading and writing in Simplified Chinese. Students in the program also have the opportunity to celebrate and appreciate an additional language and the cultural benefits.

On January 23rd, Forest Grove Elementary hosted an assembly to celebrate Chinese New Year. Invited guests, parents and students were delighted to see Kindergarten and grade one students in both the Mandarin and English programs share a traditional performance. Tonight, Forest Grove Principal Debbie Taylor with teachers Deborah Tang and Jaimie Bin Li and students from the Mandarin Kindergarten and grade one classes will perform in celebration of Chinese New Year, the Year of the Dragon.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. The History of Burnaby Schools

The Burnaby Branch of the BC Retired Teachers Association, supported by the City of Burnaby Community Heritage commission have been busy collecting stories of individuals who have attended, taught at or worked at Burnaby schools through the years. These stories will be compiled into a book, *The History of Burnaby Schools*, to be published by the end of the year.

Tonight we welcome BCRTA president Janet White who will take us for a walk down memory lane and share with us a few of the more memorable stories that have been submitted.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.