

**April 22, 2014**

## **CENTRAL'S TRACK & FIELD IS UP AND RUNNING!**

The day was wet but spirits were high at the official opening ceremony of Burnaby Central's new Track & Field facility on April 16. Athletic teams showcased their skills on the field and Burnaby-raised Olympic javelin thrower **Curtis Moss** returned to Burnaby Central! He shared memories of starting his track career at the school and reminded the student athletes in the audience to dream big! The track was officially opened with a javelin throw by Moss, a soccer kick by **Board Chair Narang**, Football toss by Burnaby's **Acting Mayor Volkow** and a baton pass by **MP Grewal** who represented the Western Economic Diversification Fund. Then refreshments prepared by students in teacher **Miriam Borys'** baking class were enjoyed by all.

## **ARTS ALIVE 2014**

The Burnaby Art Gallery annually showcases work by students in Burnaby Schools. This year's Arts Alive exhibition highlights the talent of 60 students from each of the District's eight secondary schools and is on now until May 18. An opening reception attended by **Board Chair Narang** and **Trustee Hayes** was held on April 17. It featured food prepared by students in the ACE-It Culinary Arts Apprenticeship Program. The exhibit is definitely worth checking out – or to view it online – click the link on the front page of the district website.

## **DISTRICT STUDENT PLACES IN LEGAL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION**

The Barry Sullivan Law Cup (BSLC) is an annual public speaking competition for grades 10, 11 and 12 students. The cornerstone of BC Law Week, it is held in the heritage courtrooms at the Vancouver Art Gallery. Thirty-one BC students presented on the theme: *The Role of the Law in the Digital Age*. First runner-up was **Jamal Dumas** from Burnaby Mountain Secondary. His award was presented by **Honourable Christopher E. Hinkson**, Chief Justice of the BC Supreme Court.

## **IT WAS A JUNGLE IN THERE**

On April 17, the deepest jungle of India and all its creatures descended on the Michael J Fox Theatre. It was all part of the learning journey of students from Confederation Park Elementary school who staged the musical the Jungle Book. In the lead up to the performance they incorporated every school subject into their lessons – including a simulated flight to India with actual Air Canada flight attendants. The production itself was a group effort. The entire school made up the cast with plenty of time and energy contributed by teachers, staff, **Principal Miller** and the supportive parent community.

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## **ALPHA SUSTAINABLE PROJECT A WINNER ALL AROUND**

Alpha Textiles students in **Ms Ducklow's** class found a creative way to turn mandatory sewing samples into something more meaningful. They applied their new skills creating buttonholes, zippers, and pockets into a toddler's busy book! The book includes peek-a-boo curtains, hide-away pockets, button-up dresses, jingly teddy bears, crinkly elephant ears and ladybugs that unzip to reveal a hidden treasure. The fabric for the project was donated by a local furniture company – and diverted 60 metres of fabric from the landfill!! The project won SFU's Banner Bags, 2014 Go Green Challenge and the books will be donated to organizations that support Burnaby families.

## **THE FUTURE OF LEARNING**

Sharing their views on learning and education earned two students some cash from the Burnaby Teachers' Association as part of their annual essay contest. In her essay, entitled *The Shift of Accreditation*, **Marina Gonzalez**, a Grade 11 student at Burnaby South said there should be less emphasis on grades and more "on what the student knows." **Sarah Hardjowasito**, a Grade 11 student at Burnaby Mountain, argued a case for deeper, individualized "learning for the sake of learning" in her essay, *A Student's Musings on Education*.