

June 10, 2014

SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Chair  
Baljinder Narang

Vice-Chair  
Ron Burton

Meiling Chia

Larry Hayes

Harman Pandher

James Wang

Gary Wong

As we near the end of another school year, I'd like to recognize our employees that are retiring after years of service to SD41. In total, 61 employees, including members of the Burnaby Principals & Vice-Principals Association, CUPE Local 379, Professional staff, and a great number of teachers from the Burnaby Teachers' Association. The longest serving member of this group is a teacher, Lynn Vail, who began her career in September 1971- and has just completed 43 years of service.

I am reminded of what **Nelson Mandela** once said that ***“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”***

I see teachers as instruments of change - be it in the classroom, organizing or coaching extra-curricular activities, or through everyday interactions with students. They impart knowledge and experiences on a daily basis, and influence the lives of so many learners over the years.

We also know that our district operations cannot happen without the leadership of our administrators or the hard work of our CUPE and Professional Staff. Together, they ensure that Burnaby Schools remain healthy, vibrant, efficient and strong, so that students can flourish in their learning...

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank each and every one of our retirees for their passion for public education; their dedication and commitment to school district 41; and their willingness to go the extra mile for all our learners. Thank you for upholding that culture of generosity, responsibility and integrity; and passing it on to all that you have mentored.

Now it is time for you to do all the things that you never had the time for. Whether it is spending more time with your families and loved ones, or pursuing a hobby or interest, sports or travel – we wish you every success in your future endeavours. May you have all the joys of a happy retirement along with good health, peace and happiness!

Congratulations and thank you for supporting public education in Burnaby.

**Baljinder Narang**  
**Chair, Burnaby Board of Education**