

June 26, 2017

GREAT BEGINNINGS FOR WEE ONES

The 2017 **Canadian Child Care Federation** Award of Excellence has been awarded to **Roni Cahen**. While she is officially retired, the District is grateful that Roni continues to teach Early Childhood Education part-time with the Continuing Education program. Her courses reflect Reggio-inspired practice and Roni inspires her adult students who will, in turn, inspire the children who will eventually be in their care.

SWIS FAMILIES ENJOY FIELD EXPERIENCE

The District's **Settlement Workers in Schools** program was recently awarded a \$500 grant from the Pacific Parklands Foundation to commemorate Canada 150. It enabled 42 newcomers to Canada to visit Maple Ridge's Kanaka Creek Regional Park to experience Canada's natural beauty and wonder.

BYRNE CREEK YOUTH RECOGNIZED FOR PERSEVERANCE

The **Scotia Capital "Stay in School" Awards** recognize the achievements of students who are doing exceptionally well in school despite challenging circumstances and encourages high school completion. Thirteen Byrne Creek Community School youth, who hail from 6 countries, each received a \$300 award for their achievements. They are all participants in the school's Media Arts Program, **Leave Out Violence** (LOVE).

CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN UNIQUE DISTRICT PROGRAMS

Sixteen students from four district programs, the **Burnaby Youth HUB**, **Royal Oak**, **Outlook** and **Take a Hike** were joined by families and District staff to the annual **Celebrate Success** graduation event. The students received a Dogwood or Adult Dogwood Diploma and were also recognized for attendance, academic engagement, personal growth and development. The Take a Hike program proudly honoured their first grad – many more to come!

HONOURING OUR ABORIGINAL YOUTH

Aboriginal students and families, elders and community members gathered to honour the grade 7's and fifty grade 12 grads at **Honouring Our Youth**, an annual celebration of Aboriginal student success. Hosted at Burnaby Central, highlights included grade 7's drumming to an Honour song for the grads, and grade 7 student Nika Manuel shared a classical piano performance. So many proud moments. **- more-**

DISTRICT YOUTH APPRENTICES RECEIVE AWARDS

Last week, a record number of 18 district students received Ministry of Education awards of \$1000 each for apprenticeships that include Auto Service Technicians, Hairstylists, Professional Cooks, Carpenters, Electricians, Plumbers and Tilers. Most recipients also received a District Authority Award. The presentations took place at a **Youth Train in Trades** Orientation evening held for students going into apprenticeship programs this Fall, as a way to foster a network of peers and further inspire success.

H2O NO MORE

Plastic water bottles harm the environment through the greenhouse gas emitted in the production, distribution and ultimate disposal - whether recycled or not.

Thanks to the vision of Moscrop student **Miretta Strandberg-Salom** and her team, there is not a plastic water bottle to be found in the school! In 2016, these students began creating awareness of the harm caused by plastic water bottles through posters, announcements, the student newspaper, and letters to parents and coaches. Their call to action was a simple one - "BYO - refillable water bottle" to school. With support from the Admin team - plus a decrease in water sales - a water option has been removed from the vending machines. They hope to expand this project to other Burnaby schools - saving the earth, one less water bottle at a time....

BURNABY SOUTH "SOLVES FOR TOMORROW" WITH SAMSUNG

The future will be inspired by students who are proficient in STEM subjects - and Samsung is helping engage students in STEM with its "**Solve for Tomorrow**" Challenge. Burnaby South student **Polina Petlitsyna** worked with students from the BCSD to create a prototype for a bracelet-sensory system that translates sounds into vibrations that can support them in dance. **Ky Kim**, a student in South's Video Arts program beautifully captured the magic behind this "Solve for Tomorrow" idea - and it was selected as one of four winners in Canada. The school is looking forward to receiving \$20,000 in Samsung technology - and advancing this prototype to actuality.