

September 10, 2013

## **RECESS JUST GOT BETTER**

How do you make recess even better than it already is? You add a new playground! Aubrey's new playground opened on the first day of school and the students are very excited. It was a community effort, supported by the Aubrey PAC, and backed by staff, students, families and members of the community who committed funds, time and energy to make it a reality. Principal Shelley Parks extends an invitation to one and all to come over and play anytime!

## **DISTRICT CONTINUES TO SAVE ENERGY AND DOLLARS**

Last year, the district replaced the boilers at Marlborough, Seaforth, Canada Way Education Centre, Burnaby North and Burnaby South. The new boilers are considerably more energy efficient - and will result in savings on gas costs and reduced carbon emissions. The district appreciates their partnership with Fortis BC. They contributed over \$150,000 to this project, with additional funding coming from Pacific Carbon Trust.

## **DIVERSITY IN OUR SCHOOLS**

The Canadian School Board Association hosted a national conference in Vancouver this summer. The conference was entitled *Diversity Matters*, and students from Burnaby schools were proudly represented. Outstanding opening performances were presented by students from the Mandarin Language Arts Program at Forest Grove Elementary as well as a Bhangra dance that was performed by a student group from Burnaby South Secondary.

## **STRIDING IN PRIDE**

Last year, the district participated in the Vancouver Pride Parade alongside Vancouver School District. This year, Burnaby Schools had their own entry in the high-profile August 4 event. Almost 30 staff, students and trustees proudly marched with their colourfully decorated vehicle, driven by Superintendent Kaardal. They carried "Celebrating Diversity" signs, pinwheels and water soakers to the delight of a record breaking crowd.

## **MUSICAL RIDE RECOGNIZES STUDENT LEADERS**

The RCMP Musical Ride was in Burnaby on August 28. During the event, the Burnaby RCMP recognized a grade 6/7 class from Gilmore Elementary for their leadership in raising funds for the Terry Fox Foundation and the BC Heart & Stroke Foundation. The RCMP also recognized six individual elementary students that were selected by school staff for being positive school citizens. They were Maddy Gomes (Cascade Heights), Kaila Hudson (Morley), Gabby Sarroh (Edmonds), Alex Ge (Sperling) and Floriane Lau & Brandon Kang (Clinton).

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## **AND THE AWARD GOES TO...**

Lakeview Elementary teacher Ms Wylie was both a childcare aide and an instructional aide for the district before she returned to school for her teaching degree. This year, her 20<sup>th</sup> school start up came with a bit of fanfare as she learned that she had been honoured with a *Canadian Family* magazine Great Teacher Award – one of three in Canada! The award includes a \$2,500 cash prize that she plans to use as a way to bring the entire Lakeview school community together. Congratulations Ms Wylie!

## **SCHOOL'S VALUES CARVED IN WOOD**

For three months last spring, renowned First Nations artist, Simon Daniel James worked with Westridge Elementary school students and staff on a carving. The images they created together on an 8' X 8' old growth cedar represent the school's beliefs and values - fun, freedom, friendship, health, honesty, mastery, learning, respect, safety and compassion. The unveiling of this masterpiece took place on Friday, September 6. Mounted at the school's entrance it creates a warm welcome to Westridge.