

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, September 11, 2012

1. School Opening Report

The 2012/2013 school year is off to a smooth start. The first week of school consisted of many focused activities including building school community and promoting positive school climate. Students, parents and staff also participated in a variety of school orientation activities and school communities are proud to welcome new and returning families to Burnaby.

The district overall school-age student enrolment projections for the 2012/2013 school year is 23,730 full-time equivalent students. This does not include adult learners or international students and is 152 fewer FTE students than the district enrolled in the 2011/2012 school year. Included in the projections are 1,751 new Kindergarten students and 2,314 grade 12 students entering their final year of secondary school.

Given the many changes that occur during the first few weeks of a new school year, it is difficult to determine if the district projections have been met until the final September 30 Ministry of Education enrolment reporting date. However, the district has experienced a stable enrolment pattern over the last few years and it is anticipated that this year's enrolment will be close to projections. A detailed enrolment report will be provided to the Board at a future meeting.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. The Learning Never Stops

Summer learning opportunities are an important component of the District's commitment to providing students with a wide variety of program options to meet their interests and individual learning needs.

This summer the district hosted 8500 students who participated in a variety of courses planned and organized by the school district. Classes were held in 24 Burnaby school locations enrolling 4100 students in secondary programs and 4400 in elementary programs. The students participated in courses or programs that advanced their program of studies goals, developed skills for life long learning or provided extra support for students facing some learning challenges.

Secondary Advanced Credit courses were once again the most popular with approximately 3100 students enrolled in Grade 10 – 12 subjects. These courses provided students with the opportunity to acquire credit for courses not yet taken or to upgrade a mark. Courses with the highest enrolment were: Social Studies 11, Foundations and Pre-Calculus Math 10 and 11, Science 10 and English 12. English as a Second Language courses enrolled 140 secondary students.

Moscrop was the largest secondary site with 1400 students attending classes followed by Burnaby North and Byrne Creek, each with over 1000 students. Burnaby Mountain, with

morning classes only, enrolled over 400 students and Burnaby South Adult Centre attracted 200 learners.

At the elementary level, 4400 students enjoyed a wide variety of learning opportunities at 19 different locations ranging from skill and language development, transition programs for students going into grades 1, 4 and 8 and enrichment courses that focused on reading, writing, study skills, essay and report writing, mathematics and problem solving, science, learning with laughter, and leadership development. Marlborough and Aubrey were the largest sites enrolling 621 and 495 students respectively. Over 440 elementary students took English as a Second Language classes.

In addition to the Summer Session academic programs, a number of summer programs for children and youth were offered at each of the district's 7 community schools along with childcare and preschool programs at 17 elementary schools.

As well as the summer learning opportunities sponsored by the Board and community partners, the district also was involved in supporting the British Columbia Senior Games which were held throughout the City from August 21 to 25.

Three secondary schools, Burnaby South, Byrne Creek and Burnaby Mountain were used as sporting venues by the games. A large number of students and staff also volunteered at the games with some of the students earning work experience credit for their participation.

Tonight, District Principal Donna Scott, Principal Ernie Kashima, site supervisor Tony Laurita and four students will present the benefits of participating in just some of the summer learning opportunities in Burnaby.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3. Meeting the Challenge of Grade 7 to 8 Transitions Through Collaboration And Mentorship

The district's eight secondary schools have been working closely with their family of elementary schools in their respective attendance areas, to ensure that as each student enters grade 8 they have the necessary supports and knowledge to be successful. Working as a team, teachers from elementary and secondary schools, along with support staff, student mentors and community partners, develop processes and structures to ensure that the student feels connected, safe and that their specific needs are well understood by the staff of their new school.

Tonight, Burnaby North Principal Kevin Brandt will be joined by a team including students, staff and a parent to present Burnaby North's transition program framework, goals and benefits.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.