

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, September 13, 2011**

**1. School Opening Report**

On Tuesday, September 6, 2011 the Board of Education welcomed students, families and staff to the 2011-2012 school year. Thanks in large part to the Board's dedicated staff, schools and classrooms were ready for the arrival of our returning students and families as well as those new to Burnaby. Included within this group were 1,620 kindergarten students starting school for the first time and 2,668 grade 12 students entering their final year of secondary school. In addition, the first day saw the opening of the new Burnaby Central site, an expanded Brantford Elementary School and full-day kindergarten in all of our 41 elementary schools.

The first week of school also consisted of many focused and community-building activities that are both rewarding and challenging as staff, students and parents proceeded through schedules, orientation activities, organizational changes and new registrations.

As teachers, administrators and support staff prepared their classrooms and programs for the arrival of learners, district facilities and maintenance also worked diligently to prepare our schools for opening. A tremendous amount of capital work was completed during the summer and will continue into the fall and through the school year. Some highlights include:

- Burnaby Central Secondary School where 1,281 students were welcomed to the new site on opening day
- Brantford Elementary where a new addition and seismic upgrading is now complete
- Byrne Creek Secondary School where 1,238 students were welcomed to the district's newest and first Secondary Community School
- Taylor Park Elementary where a new 11 classroom expansion is nearing completion
- Burnaby South Secondary School where the building envelope project is now complete
- Gilmore Community School where ongoing seismic upgrading continues
- Cariboo Hill Secondary where the seismic upgrading project is complete and the school is now the home to the district's Online Program
- Windsor Elementary where the movement of a portable classroom pod from Burnaby South to the Windsor site for Community and Continuing Education space is nearing completion
- Brentwood Park, Lakeview, Montecito and Sperling Elementary Schools, respectively, where the addition of modular classrooms for full-day kindergarten are complete
- New portable classrooms are in place in a variety of school sites to support enrolment and programs throughout the district

This school year also marks Phase 2 of the provincial implementation of the full-day kindergarten program. Twenty-four of Burnaby's schools implemented full-day kindergarten in Phase I during the 2010-2011 school year, with the remaining 17 schools housing the program this school year. The kindergarten program is a rich and exciting learning opportunity for our students based on current research and best practice in play-based learning.

This evening, Jillian Lewis, Principal of Brentwood Park Elementary will introduce parent, Tara Sperling and kindergarten student, Dexter Sperling who will share their thoughts and first impressions of their first week of school.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

## **2. Burnaby Central Secondary School**

The excitement of attending a new school is always a highlight of any school year. The anticipation is heightened when the school is brand new. On September 6, 2011, Burnaby Central opened its "new" doors to 1,281 students after three years of planning and construction. The school boasts an impressive design and a wide range of program options and learning opportunities. Some unique features include:

- A high quality LEED gold facility
- Enhanced athletic facilities
- A conference centre space
- An expansive and centrally located student commons area
- A science super lab
- A large, multi-use special education classroom cluster
- A theatre and state of the art dance studio

This evening, Principal Garth Errico along with two Burnaby Central students, will share some of the excitement and experiences during the first week at the "new" Burnaby Central.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

## **3. School Enrolment**

The district projected a school-age population of 23,893 full-time equivalent students for the 2011-2012 school year. Given the many changes that occur during the first two weeks of school, it is difficult to determine if these projections have been met. The district has experienced a stable enrolment pattern over the last few years and we anticipate that this will occur once again this year. A detailed enrolment report will be provided to the Board at the next meeting.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.