

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, September 25, 2012

1. The School Library – A Learning Commons

In order to prepare students for success in a complex world, educators must blend content knowledge, essential skills and multi-literacies within the context of supporting socially and personally responsible citizens. School libraries are ideally placed to facilitate this learning. Library programs can support school-wide inquiry and facilitate critical and creative thinking to help students become independent life-long learners. Teacher-librarians are exploring how school library resource centres can be creatively transformed into a Learning Commons.

This evening, District Teacher-Librarian, Patricia Finlay, will provide information about libraries in Burnaby schools and their evolving role as physical and virtual information and learning centres for students and staff. The district purchased subscriptions for online resources from the Critical Thinking Consortium (TC²) and Ms. Finlay will show how these resources can be used by teachers and teacher-librarians.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. 2011 – 2012 Governor General's Academic Medal Recipients

Lord Dufferin, Canada's third Governor General after Confederation, created the Academic Medals in 1873 to encourage academic excellence across the nation. Over the years they have become the most prestigious award that students in Canadian schools can receive.

For more than 125 years, the Governor General's Academic Medals have been awarded to students graduating with the highest average from a high school, as well as from approved colleges or university programs. Pierre Trudeau, Tommy Douglas, Kim Campbell, Robert Bourassa, Robert Stanfield and Gabrielle Roy are just some of the more than 50,000 people who have received the Governor General's Academic Medal. The medals are presented on behalf of the Governor General by each of our secondary school principals.

The Governor General's Academic Medal recipients for the 2011 – 2012 school year are: Jenny Chan from Alpha, Roger Tsui from Burnaby Central, Bronwyn Balaz-Munn from Burnaby Mountain, Nicole Shum from Burnaby North, Sherry He Chen Song from Burnaby South, Alice Kang from Byrne Creek, Shayna Virginillo from Cariboo Hill, and Mikayla Louie from Moscrop.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.