

October 9, 2012

Science students get a head start on their futures

More than 60 students attended the inaugural session of the University Science Transition Experience Program (USTEP) held last week at Simon Fraser University. Qualified secondary students receive high school credit for attending the specially designed seminars offered by SFU's science faculty. It's a free program for students looking to enrich their education with an introduction to the university environment. The series of interactive sessions on the theme of energy will be led by SFU professors. Students will choose a topic and create a project based on the material discussed in the sessions with mentorship and performance assessments set by the students' teachers.

Burnaby teacher chosen to attend the BC Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy

Sarah Bacon of Ecole Cariboo Hill Secondary has been selected to attend the Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy from Oct 16-20. The 5 days of professional development are held at the Parliament Buildings in Victoria. Its objective is to enhance knowledge and understanding of BC's parliamentary system of governance. Sarah Bacon will also receive an Award of Teaching Excellence.

Let the fun begin at the new University Highlands playground

University Highlands officially opened their colourful rocket-themed playground with a ribbon-cutting ceremony amidst cheers from its student population of 195, their parents, teachers and the community. One of the first items of business for the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) in 2010 was to form a committee and set a goal to raise \$100,000 for their playground. The project gained widespread attention when a video showcasing the need for a playground made it to the semi-finals of an Aviva funding program. Special thanks to Burnaby Mountain's Nesters Market/Buy-Low Foods for their matching grant of \$35,000. And thank you to the Burnaby Mountain Business Association, and to the community and parents for their donations. The school also received \$32,000 from the Province of BC. The playground was installed over the summer by the district's facilities department and was a delightful back to school surprise.

Burnaby North Secondary students hold a flash mob to raise school spirit

Student Government held a flash mob to build school spirit at Burnaby North last week. The school's dance club led the group with some of their own moves to the internet craze "Gangnam Style." The bleachers were packed with students cheering on the mob.