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PUBLIC BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 23, 2012

Today was definitely another “feel good” day in the Burnaby School District.

This morning our new Minister of Education, Don McRae, had a first-hand look at the wonderful work that’s being done at Edmonds Community School. The Minister took time to visit a number of classrooms, have an informal chat with some students and staff and really saw what the word “community” in community schools really means. I was able to impress upon him the importance of partnerships in making this and all of our schools such valuable resources to our students and their families.

This afternoon, numerous dignitaries, students, staff and community members joined Premiere Christy Clark in finally declaring the beautiful, new Burnaby Central Secondary School “officially” open. It’s been a year coming, but that didn’t matter today as we celebrated another superb example of our District partnering, this time with the Provincial, Federal and City governments to come together to create a facility that embraces the very best in environmental sustainability ... and creates a place where students, teachers and the community can be inspired to be life-long learners. Along with making mention of some of Burnaby Central’s notable former students, such as actor Michael J. Fox, hockey’s Glenn Anderson, Olympic boxer Dale Walters and culinary master Rob Feenie, the Premier, herself a graduate of Burnaby’s public education system, reminisced about her father actually teaching at Burnaby Central in his career as an educator. More history revealed itself as well, as I was able to confirm with Premier Clark that the Mr. Clark that taught me math at Cariboo Hill Secondary in the early 1970’s was none other than her Dad!

All-in-all, another day in our District that our administrators, staff, students and community can all be proud.

Larry Hayes
Board Chair / Trustee
Burnaby Board of Education SD41