

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**Reporting to Public Session Monday, October 24, 2016**

**1. Welcome to Kindergarten in Burnaby Schools**

Kindergarten marks the official start of formal schooling for many children. The first day and weeks of school are long anticipated by all students, but especially by kindergarten children and their parents. Parents and children come to school with hopes, dreams and goals.

This evening, Jennifer Taylor, Head Teacher Brantford Elementary School will introduce Tina and Randip Uppal and kindergarten student Millen from the English program along with parents Alicia and Travis Deaust with French Immersion kindergarten student Kennedy. Al Post, Principal, Forest Grove Elementary School will introduce parent Jennie Johnston and kindergarten student Elliott Rees from the Mandarin Language Arts Program. They will share their thoughts and impressions of their first weeks at school.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

**2. 2015 – 2016 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 2015-2016 school year are: Melissa Luo from Burnaby Central, Natasha Carson from Burnaby Mountain, Sherry Zhang from Burnaby North, Nikola Deretic from Byrne Creek, Gillian Xu from Burnaby South, Angela Lin from Moscrop, Natalie Warkentin from Cariboo Hill and Laichen Ma from Alpha Secondary.

We are pleased to have Principals and Vice-Principals from each of our 8 secondary schools here with us tonight. They will speak about the tremendous achievements of their Governor General Academic Medal recipients.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.