

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, October 27, 2015**

**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, Shairoz Merani, Principal Aubrey Elementary, will introduce parent Tanya Lai and kindergarten student Devin along with parent, Brenda Mitchell and French Immersion kindergarten student Kiera. They will share their thoughts and first impressions of their first weeks at school

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

**2. 2014 – 2015 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 2014-2015 school year are: Sophie Whitarcar from Burnaby South, Scott Xiao from Burnaby North, Jeeyoun (Andrew) Jeong from Byrne Creek, Bryan Hong from Burnaby Mountain, Zi Ying (Kathy) Fan from Moscrop, Salina Kung from Alpha, Simran Sarwara from Cariboo Hill and Nikola Surjanovic from Burnaby Central.

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.