

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, November 8, 2011

1. Edmonds Leadership Team Students Win John Gibbard Award

Students on the Edmonds leadership team, with the support of teacher, Karolyn Washtock, received the John Gibbard Award on October 23, 2011 at a ceremony in Vancouver. The award is presented annually by the United Nations Association in Canada in memory of John Gibbard, a supporter of the League of Nations. The John Gibbard Award is intended to recognize dedication and commitment to working for humanity and making the world a better place.

The Edmonds school community is a generous one and loves to “give back”. Last year, students raised funds to build a school in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and have exchanged letters with the African students. Over the past two years, Edmonds students have raised approximately \$1200 and have created necessity Christmas gift bags for Burnaby’s Progressive Housing Society. The focus of the student leadership team is to promote fair treatment for everyone; to raise awareness of issues that face us in Canada and around the world; and, most importantly, to empower the students to make a difference and be our future leaders.

This evening, teachers Karolyn Washtock and Lydia Legebokoff, along with students from Edmonds Community School, will highlight the work done by the leadership team and speak about what winning the John Gibbard Award means to the school.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. Remembrance Day Poster Contest

For over 50 years, the Royal Canadian Legion has sponsored an annual poster and literary contest open to all Canadian students. Initial judging takes place at the community level by volunteers at local Legion branches, and then winning entries are forwarded to Ottawa. The entries are then judged and National winners are declared.

Atalanta Shi, a grade 11 student at Burnaby North Secondary School was recognized by the Royal Canadian Legion, as her poster commemorating Remembrance Day was selected as the first prize winner amongst entries from across Canada. The poster embodies one of the primary goals of the contest, which is to foster the tradition of Remembrance among Canadians. On October 27, Atalanta was presented with a cheque for one hundred and fifty dollars by the North Burnaby Branch (no. 148) of the Royal Canadian Legion, along with a plaque for the school.

The Royal Canadian Legion is sponsoring a trip to Ottawa for Atalanta to participate in the National Memorial Remembrance Day Ceremony where she will place a wreath on behalf of the Youth of Canada. Atalanta will also have an opportunity to

meet and visit with the Governor General. In addition, she will receive a personal plaque and a cash award from the National Office of the Royal Canadian Legion. The poster will be on display at the National War Museum in Ottawa through May 2012.

This evening, trustees will meet Atalanta Shi and view her winning poster.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3. District Student Advisory Committee

The District Student Advisory Committee (DSAC) is comprised of a group of students representing each of Burnaby's secondary schools. DSAC assists in decision making with regard to programs, policies and practices as well as providing students with an opportunity to explore issues concerning youth in the community.

The team recently held its annual retreat at the North Vancouver Outdoor School in Brackendale where students participated in team-building and planning activities. Students spent much of their time in valuable workshops, including public education governance, Aboriginal education in British Columbia, student engagement, effective meeting and communication strategies and DSAC executive elections. It was an energetic and exciting retreat.

This evening, members of the DSAC executive will share information about the sessions in which they participated as well as their many plans for contributions to the school district they intend to make this year.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.