

June 11, 2018

### **Sedin Family Foundation Early Chapter Book Grant**

The Sedin Family Foundation generously offered a \$10,000 donation, split into twenty \$500 grants to BC school Libraries for the purchase of early chapter books. In an effort to support student literacy, Inman and Kitchener Elementary Schools applied for the grant. The schools focused on creating Literature Circle Kits that could be implemented with students in grades 2 to 4. Purchasing books that were meant to bridge the gap between picture books and novels for transitional readers was an ideal fit.

The schools' Head Teachers and Teacher Librarians collaborated with classroom teachers to incorporate these novels into student learning. Some examples included students creating skits of poignant aspects of the story similar to a reader's theatre or creating their own retelling or alternate endings, through the use of technology. Both Inman and Kitchener were successful in receiving the grant money. Well done!

### **Burnaby Board of Trade Business Showcase**

The Burnaby School District participated in the Burnaby Board of Trade Business Showcase on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown. Director of Instruction Garth Errico, District Program Consultant for Career Education Paul Arthur and Applied Design, Skills and Technologies Advisor Alex McKillop were on hand to showcase the many Industry Training, Work Experience, and Applied Design Skills and Technologies learning opportunities the district offers. Over 50 Burnaby businesses presented to hundreds of attendees in Burnaby's biggest networking event of the year!

### **IDAHAAT Breakfast**

On May 31 Burnaby Central Secondary hosted the 5th annual International Day Against Homophobia & Transphobia (IDAHAAT) Breakfast.

Over 100 students and district staff attended the event, including 10 students and staff from New West Secondary School. Students were served an amazing hot breakfast, put on by the cafeteria program at Burnaby Central, as they heard from 3 amazing keynote speakers who shared their powerful stories.

Following the keynotes, students attended breakout sessions focused on helping students work together in their school GSA clubs and on exploring LGBTQ+ issues through literature, put on by the Burnaby Public Library. During this time school SOGI leads also met to debrief the year and plan for next year. It was a powerful day of learning, sharing, and bonding for all those in attendance.

## **District Retirement Event**

On Wednesday, June 6, thirty-six of this year's seventy-three retirees and their guests gathered at Burnaby Central Secondary School for a formal dinner and awards ceremony. Trustees and senior staff awarded the retirees with a certificate of appreciation and silver district pin to honour their many years of service to the Burnaby School District. Some of the retirees had contributed well over 40 years of service to the district in their capacity as teacher, support staff, administrator and professional staff. It was a lovely evening of celebration. Congratulations and best wishes to all our retirees!