

December 18, 2018

Good evening. Welcome to the final Board Meeting of 2018.

Since the Inaugural Board Meeting a few weeks ago, trustees have been very busy. We've been engaged in a variety of orientation and planning sessions. We've also enjoyed opportunities to meet students, staff, and parents in our schools. We continue to be inspired by the creativity and innovation happening in our schools, as well as the engaging learning opportunities.

Additionally, as a Board we had the chance to meet trustees from across the province when we participated in a three-day B.C. School Trustees Association academy. We heard a number of speakers including the Minister of Education and educational consultants. The academy was informative and validating. While we are very proud of the work happening in our schools, we know there is more to be done if we are to continue to meet the growing and changing needs of our learners.

In addition to looking ahead to strategic planning for the District, two areas of particular focus for us will be the District's participation in the Ministry of Education's Equity Scan project, and our continued work in supporting childcare initiatives in Burnaby. We have requested updates, and I know we're going to hear from staff tonight regarding these two areas.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge this festive time of year. However you mark the holiday season, on behalf of the Burnaby Board of Education, I wish everyone a wonderful holiday and all the very best for the New Year.

Gary Wong, Chair
Burnaby Board of Education