

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session on Tuesday, October 15, 2019

1. Teaching Indigenous World Views

September 30, 2019 marked Orange Shirt Day, a day students and staff shared an understanding of Indigenous children's experiences in residential schools, a day where school communities took another step on the path to reconciliation. When we provide opportunities to learn from Indigenous knowledge and experience it creates common understandings in communities where all students, staff and parents can reflect on the richness of our country, Canada.

Classroom teachers are demonstrating innovative ways that support the teachings of Indigenous knowledge, wisdom, perspectives and culture so that both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students together, take part in the journey we are on to truth and reconciliation.

Both presentations this evening demonstrate how our schools are embracing Indigenous perspectives and engaging all learners in the process. Brandon Curr, Director of Instruction, will provide an overview of ways in which we are increasing awareness of Indigenous cultures, history and languages across our school communities.

Our first presentation features a student art project that was carried out with classroom teacher, Linda Schiff, and Trenton Pierre from the Katzie Nation. Students from Royal Oak secondary will be sharing their projects and how this process impacted them as people and learners.

The second presentation highlights Burnaby's first Indigenous Learning Week at Burnaby Village Museum where 20 classes of students from elementary schools across the district experienced Coast Salish culture by learning about language, artwork, weaving and Indigenous plants. Leigh Taylor-Gibbs, primary teacher at Stoney Creek Community School, is here to talk about the process in which students engaged and her students, Amira Bissett and Kiev Lukasewich, will share what this experience meant to them.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.