

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**Reporting to Public Session on Tuesday, January 25, 2022**

**1. Black Excellence Day**

Black Excellence Day was held on Friday, January 14, 2022. The first of its kind, the day was proclaimed by the Province of British Columbia, put on by the Ninandotoo Society and hosted by the Burnaby School District. The virtual event was a rich day of learning and celebration of Black contributions, achievements, stories, art, history, joy and love. The goal of the day was to raise awareness, uplift and bring hope to not only Black youth, but all racialized and non-racialized youth.

With 17 school districts and 5 Independent schools across the province participating, over 12,000 students attended the virtual event. Participants heard from a number of speakers including The Honourable Greg Fergus, Chair of the Canadian Caucus of Black Parliamentarians, Dr. Kelisha Graves, Director of the Martin Luther King Centre in Atlanta, Georgia, Lillian Boraks-Nemetz, Jewish Holocaust Survivor, as well as members of the Vancouver Whitecaps Soccer Team and award-winning musicians and historians.

Black Youth from across the lower mainland submitted videos themselves, sharing their own lived experiences, speaking about what Black Excellence means to them, and sharing words of wisdom and advice for schools moving forward.

This evening, Beth Applewhite, District Principal of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, will provide some opening comments and share a video compilation of the day's notable highlights.

**Recommendation:**

THAT the Board of Education receive this information.