

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session on Tuesday, February 22, 2022

1. Youth Development Instrument (YDI)

Youth who establish healthy social, emotional, mental and physical behaviours in early life are much more likely to achieve academic success and other positive developmental outcomes. The Youth Development Instrument (YDI) is a self report survey of Grade 11 students, created to identify which resources, opportunities, and practices set youth up for success in adolescence and adulthood. Modelled after the Early Development Instrument (EDI) and the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) the YDI was developed by researchers at Simon Fraser University (SFU), the University of British Columbia (UBC) Human Early Learning Partnership, and the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), in collaboration with school administrators, teachers, healthcare providers, policymakers, community partners and young people.

The goal of the YDI is to create actionable findings that schools can use to improve students' well-being. The 3 schools participating in the 2021-2022 pilot are Burnaby Mountain, Burnaby North, and Byrne Creek Community School. Three months after the YDI survey is delivered we will receive an overall district report and individual school-level reports. In the long-term, this data will complement the Student Learning Survey and Adolescent Health Survey by linking important outcomes such as high school graduation to students' experiences in school, their life at home and in their communities, and other data on their physical and mental well-being.

This evening Sheri Brattston, Managing Director of Community Education, and Bal Dhillon, Community School Coordinator of Byrne Creek Community School, will join secondary students Ervin Cadiz and Clifford Ocampo as the students reflect on their experiences over the past 2 years at school, at home and in their community that have impacted their well-being, resilience, and positive mental health.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

2. Local Indigenous Artist Designs Pink Shirt for Burnaby School District

The Burnaby School District is continuing its work in moving toward Truth and Reconciliation and part of the commitment is to learn and honour the history and story of local First Nations. This is foundational to the District's approach of working with Indigenous students and families. This work is strengthened by the knowledge and generosity of local Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Community Members.

Art from the local First Nations helps tell the story of this place. This year the District partnered with Gord Dick, artist from the Tsleil-Waututh and Lil'Wat Nations, to design a Pink Shirt for students and staff. He also offered teachings regarding the meaning of the design to share with staff and students:

"The wolf is looking up at the eagle and the eagle is wrapping around the wolf. The eagle brings healing and represents guidance from our ancestors, from those who walked softly before us. The wolf represents the power of communication and community standing together as one heart."

Gord Dick, Indigenous Artist

This evening, Rob Smyth, District Principal of Indigenous Education, will share the story of the Pink Shirt and the unique "made-for-Burnaby" design.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education receive this information.