

May 24, 2022

Good evening and welcome.

It is with a heavy heart that I would like to acknowledge the tragic death of a Byrne Creek student a short while ago. Our deepest condolences go to the family and friends who loved Muska, and those who are grieving in the school community.

It has been a difficult time for staff and students who are coming to terms with this unimaginable loss, and I would like to thank the school administration and staff who have been providing communication and support to the community on our behalf. I would also like to thank the district Critical Incident Response Team who have been instrumental in coordinating support for students and staff where and when required.

I would also like to acknowledge the PAC and community who have come together to support one another in these difficult circumstances.

The PAC has brought their concerns with traffic safety for pedestrians on city streets to us, so we could support them in their advocacy to the city. The PAC Chair and I toured the area surrounding Byrne Creek and later met with PAC executive and district staff in preparation for their presentation to the Traffic Safety Committee last week. The PAC presentation of a focused list of improvements to enhance safety for pedestrians was well received by the committee. As the district representative on the committee, Trustee Gary Wong will continue to support the PAC in their advocacy.

Jen Mezei, Chair
Burnaby Board of Education