

INSIDE BURNABY SCHOOLS

December 13, 2022



HONOURS AND AWARDS

We're **Burnaby's Favourite Place to Learn a New Skill**. The District was chosen for the honour in Burnaby Now's **A-List publication**, where voters indicate their favourites in the city. And the Horticulture Program Coordinator at **Burnaby Community and Continuing Education, Peter Isaacson**, has won the BC Landscape and Nursery Association's Educator of the Year Award for his work. Over at **Burnaby North Secondary**, students competed in the **British Columbia Institute of Technology's High School Business Case Competition** where they got to work with BCIT mentors. The **North** team took first place. In a national music competition involving thousands from coast-to-coast, four schools have made the finals. They are **Capitol Hill, Glenwood**, and **Marlborough** elementary schools, and **Second Street Community School**. Let's watch some highlights from their entries to the **Canadian Music Class Challenge**, which is put on by CBC Music...

HOPE AND ACTION FOR RECONCILIATION

Nelson Elementary has come together for a school-wide project to learn about reconciliation, the land, and hope for the future. Together, with support from the **Indigenous Education Team**, they've created a **Healing Forest**. After seeking guidance from the **Coast Salish Plant Nursery**, students learned about Indigenous plants, put them in the soil, and created messages of hope on river rocks they painted orange. Over at **Parkcrest Elementary**, school and district leaders had their first meeting with the **Nahane** family from the **Squamish Nation**, including **Elder Latash, Elder Dehlia**, and **Marissa**. They'll be sharing teachings, collaborating with students and staff, and honouring the land with a digitally designed Indigenous art piece for the newly renovated school.

SOCCER FEVER AS CURRENT AND FORMER STUDENTS MAKE THEIR INTERNATIONAL MARK

There was excitement across the District with many cheering on **Team Canada** at the **World Cup**, such as **South Slope** and the **BC School for the Deaf, Second Street, Capitol Hill, Brentwood** and **Marlborough** schools. Students and staff at **Edmonds Community School** were inspired to create their own World Cup. In Qatar, **Burnaby Central Secondary** alumni **Alphonso Davies** made history with Team Canada's first goal in a men's World Cup. At his former high school, the next generation are also making their international mark. Several players from the **Girls Elite Soccer Academy**, which is put on in partnership with the **Vancouver Whitecaps**, competed at the **U17 World Cup in India**. And six earned big scholarships during the **National Collegiate Athletic Association Division 1 University Signing Day**. They were one of North America's top recruiting classes.

FUN IN THE SNOW

With the recent snowfall, artists at **Suncrest, Confederation Park** and **Marlborough Elementary** found creative ways to use what mother nature provided. Photography students at **Byrne Creek Community School** made good use of the backdrop and lighting, while squeezing in some fun and action shots. Delight was also had the old-fashioned way as seen at **Twelfth Avenue, South Slope, Brentwood Park, Kitchener, Confederation Park** and **Marlborough** elementary schools.

EXPLORING CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

Across the District, there have been several opportunities to come together in unique ways to learn about cultures and honour community. **Second Street** returned to their more than two decades-long tradition of celebrating **Guru Nanak**'s birthday, with the cooking for 500 people done by community members. And after a pause during the pandemic, **International Students** can once again participate in excursions designed for them as cultural learning opportunities about Canada. Most recently, 50 students went to Victoria for the day. The pictures seen are from the photo contest for the trip, with winning shots by **Burnaby Central**'s **Valentina** from Switzerland; **Burnaby Mountain Secondary**'s **Francisca** from Chile; and **Byrne Creek**'s **Go** from Japan. These images are from the **Photography Club** at **Taylor Park Elementary**. Students are exploring how to visually express school culture and themes, such as diversity and inclusion. Many of the club's twenty Grade 6 and 7s were exposed to photography during **Summer Session**. They now meet before school once a week and are flourishing, with more than 5000 shots snapped by October, alone. And **Settlement Workers in Schools** supported 32 newcomers from five countries with making the most of a community hub: their local library. The field trip included time for connection, getting a library card, as well as learning how to borrow books and access other resources.

IGNITING THE MAGIC OF THE HOLIDAYS

Schools are getting in the spirit of the season in many ways, such as these Kindergarten students at **Chaffey-Burke Elementary** who learned about **Hanukkah**. **Breakfast with Santa** is a popular event at many schools, including **Second Street** where students from **Cariboo Hill Secondary** volunteered to help. Grade 5-7 students at **Brantford Elementary** held a **Mistletoe Market**. The craft fair began with a competition where prospective student vendors demonstrated responsibilities – all in an effort to get one of the 20 coveted tables. At the fair, itself, the whole school community, including families, were invited to shop the many creative and unique items on sale. Holiday performances are in full swing, including the first in-person performance of the district choirs since the pandemic began, aptly titled **Together Again**. After hours of rehearsals, the **CoroVoce** youth choir, **Piccolini** children's choir and **Sound Wave** handbell choir took the stage at the Michael J. Fox Theatre. School performances across the District are another holiday highlight for appreciative audiences, such as **Moscrop Secondary**'s **A December to Remember**, the **Winter Cabaret** held at **Alpha Secondary**, and the **Winter Night of Music** at **Burnaby North**, which showcased the **Marching Band** and **Chinese Orchestra**. And over at **South Slope/BCSD**, their **Choir** held its first official community performance in more than two years.

THE GIFT OF GIVING

Kindergarten children at **Brentwood Park**, along with Leadership students from **Alpha Secondary**, were among several across the District to come together for **Operation Elf**: spreading joy and kindness with holiday cards for seniors. Many schools collect donations and raise funds, including these holiday campaigns at **Byrne Creek** and **Stoney Creek** Community Schools, as well as at **Lyndhurst**, **Brantford**, **Twelfth Avenue** and **Nelson** Elementary schools. **Burnaby North** students put up Christmas trees for the **Rotary Club's Festival of Lights** at Lougheed Mall, with proceeds going to **Boots for Kids**. Fun and games hosted by the Student Government at **Burnaby South Secondary** raised money for the **Downtown Eastside Women's Centre**. And at **Burnaby Mountain**'s **Culture Fest**, the school enjoyed delicious food and student performances, with all funds raised going to the **Greater Vancouver Food Bank**.