

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**Reporting to Public Session on Tuesday, January 24, 2023**

**1. Black Excellence Day**

Black Excellence Day was held on Friday, January 13, 2023. Youth and staff from the Burnaby School District were among the organizers, speakers and participants of the second annual Black Excellence Day. The Ninandotoo Society, the organization that founded the day, joined the Burnaby School District in shaping the session and greeting over 30, 000 attendees virtually from across the province.

The goal of the event was to raise awareness, uplift and bring hope to not only Black youth, but all racialized and non-racialized youth. Designed as a learning opportunity and celebration of Black achievements, stories, art, people, joy, love and history, the timing of the day was scheduled to coincide with the celebration of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Participants heard from speakers, presenters and performers, including students, motivational speakers, musicians, historians, politicians, community organizers and athletes. Students listened to stories of inspiration and resilience and joined in celebration of the many contributions of Black people.

This evening, District Principal, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Beth Applewhite, is joined by Byrne Creek Community School students Lulyanna Tshaye (grade 11) and Mubarak Rashid (grade 10), and Burnaby Central Secondary Joy Kimwemwe (grade 11) as they share some of their experiences, learning, and highlights from Black Excellence Day.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive the information.