

December 19, 2023

Good evening and welcome to our December public board meeting.

The Burnaby Board of Education extends warm holiday greetings to every member of our community. This time of year is not only an opportunity to celebrate traditions but also a chance to reflect on the strength of our collective connections.

Throughout the year, our teachers and staff have demonstrated unwavering dedication and resilience. Their tireless efforts have not only shaped the minds and spirits of our students but have also contributed to the vibrant tapestry of our educational community. As we approach the winter break, we extend our deepest appreciation to the educators and staff who have gone above and beyond to create an inspiring and connected environment for our students.

The holiday season is a wonderful time to come together with friends and family and celebrate the spirit of giving but let us also remember that the sense of community is something we cherish year-round. Burnaby schools thrive because of the collaboration and support of individuals throughout our community.

Beyond the festive celebrations, it is the daily acts of kindness, understanding, and support that define us as an inclusive community. Each day our students, families, teachers, staff, and parents contribute to an environment that strives to be where everyone feels valued, heard, and supported. This spirit of community is a source of strength and inspiration, shaping the experiences and futures of our students.

During the holidays, and throughout the year, let us follow the examples of our students and remember those in our community who may need extra support. A small act of kindness can make a significant impact, and together we can ensure that everyone feels the warmth of community spirit.

As we enter this joyous season, let us carry the warmth of community with us into the new year. Together, we can continue to foster an environment that encourages learning, growth, and mutual respect. No matter the tradition you celebrate – Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa – or you simply enjoy the beauty of the winter season, may your hearts be filled with gratitude and the joy of shared moments.

On behalf of the entire Board, we express our gratitude and may your holiday season bring you peace, happiness, and a sense of belonging.

Bill Brassington, Chair
Burnaby Board of Education