

June 25, 2024

Good evening and welcome.

As we reach the end of another remarkable school year, I am honoured to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2024. This year, we celebrate not only our Grade 12 graduates but also our youngest learners in Kindergarten, our Grade 7 students, and our adult learners, all of whom are stepping into new chapters of their educational journeys.

Congratulating the Class of 2024

Kindergarten Graduates

First, a special congratulations to our Kindergarten students who are graduating to Grade 1. Your curiosity, enthusiasm, and growth over this year have been inspiring. We are excited to see all the wonderful things you will achieve as you continue your educational journey.

Grade 7 Graduates

To our Grade 7 students, congratulations on completing your elementary education. As you prepare to enter secondary school in September, know that you carry with you the skills, knowledge, and friendships you have built. Secondary school will bring new challenges and opportunities, and we are confident you will rise to meet them with the same dedication and resilience you have shown thus far.

Grade 12 Graduates

To our Grade 12 students, congratulations on reaching this significant milestone. As you graduate and move on to trades, travel, work, and other post-secondary opportunities, remember that you are equipped with the values of empathy, inclusivity, and perseverance that have been nurtured throughout your time in the Burnaby School District. We are incredibly proud of your achievements and look forward to hearing about your future successes.

Adult Learners

To our adult learners, your dedication and perseverance are truly commendable. Balancing education with other responsibilities is no small feat, and your success is a testament to your hard work and determination. As you graduate and move on to new opportunities, we celebrate your accomplishments and the example you set for lifelong learning. We wish you continued success in all your future endeavours.

Honouring Our Retirees

This year, we also celebrate and honour our retirees for their years of dedication and service. Your contributions have been instrumental in shaping the most empathetic and inclusive generation of Burnaby students. Your legacy of commitment and care will continue to inspire and guide us. Thank you for your unwavering dedication to our students and our community.

Looking Ahead

Over the summer, the Board will remain active and engaged. We will participate with staff and students in the Burnaby Pride Celebration and Vancouver Pride Parade. We will continue to work on

updating the District's policy manual to ensure it reflects our current values and goals. Additionally, we will be designing our new Strategic Plan, which will guide our efforts in the coming years. Our advocacy for Burnaby Schools will persist as we engage with city, provincial, and federal partners to ensure that public education in Burnaby receives the support it needs.

As we close this chapter and look forward to the next, I want to wish everyone a safe and happy summer. Take time to rest, rejuvenate, and enjoy time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you back in the fall, ready to embark on another year of learning and growth.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our community.

Bill Brassington, Chair
Burnaby Board of Education