

INSIDE BURNABY SCHOOLS

June 24, 2025



HONOURING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

A student from **Burnaby North Secondary** earned gold and more at the **Canada-Wide Science Fair** for his project. A **Moscrop Secondary** student took silver in **Hairstyling** at the **Skills Canada Nationals**. Two students from **Forest Grove** and **Cameron Elementary** schools got perfect scores in the **Gauss Math Test**. Of the 15,000 across Canada who wrote it, only 37 achieved this. A student from **Alpha** earned first place in the youth contest at **Vancouver Writers Fest**. Two French Immersion students at **Brantford** came in 2nd and 3rd place in a national contest. Many student-athletes competed in provincials, with some taking big wins – including **Burnaby South's** Junior Ultimate team. A student at **Second Street Community School** won a provincial Accessibility design contest.

FOSTERING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

At **Confederation Park Elementary**, a whole Grade 2/3 class took part in a lesson from **SET-BC** on how to use **Augmentative and Alternative Communication** or **AAC**, along with their classmate who uses it to communicate. An EA-in-training at **Second Street** noticed Theo's love of ice cream. She built a stand with her husband so that the Grade 1 student could share and communicate with children on the playground – filling both bellies and hearts. The **BC Provincial School for the Deaf's Leadership** class organized activities to bring people together in the spirit of inclusion. They began **National AccessAbility Week** with an accessible dance event, welcoming students in ASL classes at **Burnaby South** and **South Slope Elementary**. To support inclusive emergency response, **BCSD** students shared a video they made with the **Burnaby Fire Department**. It teaches basic sign language to firefighters who might need to communicate with Deaf individuals during emergencies. **Burnaby South's Inclusivity Club** visited **Lakeview Elementary** to share how to work together to create more inclusive communities. All classes at **Maywood Community School** read the book *More than Words* as part of a school-wide project. Students discussed the many ways of communicating and made a display that represented their ideas inside AAC devices, with sign language, speech and thought bubbles.

TAKING PRIDE IN DIVERSITY IN BURNABY SCHOOLS

Several schools acknowledged **Pride Month** with a flag raising, including **Burnaby Central Secondary** and **Taylor Park Elementary**. Children at **Taylor Park** had a **Be You** celebration, where all students were encouraged to wear clothing that represents them, and to be proud of being: "uniquely you." **Cameron Elementary** had several activities, including a **Pride Walk**. The **Pride Club** at **Lakeview Elementary** created a welcoming window display. Students at **Brentwood Park Elementary** focused on a sense of belonging for everyone, with a **Rainbow Dance Party** and other learning opportunities. **Maywood Community School** hosted the District's **Family Pride Picnic**. This year's event – which welcomes all families – was the largest yet, with more than 200 people attending.

FUNDRAISING FOR THE COMMUNITY WITH HEART AND “SOLE”

Many schools participate in **Jump Rope for Heart** fundraisers. **Brentwood Park Elementary** surpassed their goal, raising more than \$3,000 for the **Heart and Stroke Foundation**. Grade 6/7 Leadership students at **Aubrey Elementary** collected more than \$4,200 for the **BC Children's Hospital Foundation** – all through the generosity of their school community. Funds will be used for medical equipment and mental health services. In the fall, schools across the District hold an annual **Terry Fox Run**, walk, or roll. The **Terry Fox Foundation** recently wrote the Superintendent to share that schools' combined efforts showed great strength in numbers, raising a collective sum of almost \$63,000 this year for cancer research. **Chaffey-Burke Elementary** reached “Top Fundraising” status in BC after focusing on Terry's dream and raising nearly \$6,500. Good-natured school staff at **Burnaby North Secondary** agreed to have pies, water, slime, and silly string projected at them – all as a fundraiser initiated by Grade 10 Leadership students for the **Canadian Cancer Society**.

STUDENTS LEAD A GREEN CULTURE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

The winners of this year's **Climate Project Challenge** each earned hundreds of dollars for their projects, with funding from **Simon Fraser University**. The challenge is led by the District's **Burnaby Youth Sustainability Network**, who invited winners to present at their BYSN year-end event. **Burnaby South Secondary** students won for their Earth Keeper Garden, **Moscrop Secondary** for their Clean School Collective that picks up beyond school grounds. And **University Highlands Elementary** won for their Green Team Mushroom Growing Project. Twin sisters from **Burnaby Mountain Secondary** won a **City of Burnaby Environmental Award** this month for their work co-leading the school's **Earthwise Club**, which collaborates with **SFU's Bridging Environments Program**. Two **Burnaby North Secondary** students were invited to present at an international sustainability conference for scientists and professionals. They spoke about their winning regional science fair project, which looks at soil remediation in Nigeria to support food security. Students at **Marlborough Elementary** have been learning how to grow food by planting beans and chives. The afterschool **Garden Club** at **Edmonds Community School** has been busy. Students at **Westridge Elementary** learned about weathering and erosion by experimenting with sand and sprinkles. A Grade 6/7 class at **Maywood Community School** explored what happens after a tree falls – including how it nurtures seedlings and shelters insects and animals. Students at **Nelson Elementary** explored the lifecycle of butterflies through first-hand observations.

ENDING THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH TRADITIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

Many elementary schools held **Sports Days**. The annual tradition builds community, leadership opportunities, and joy at the end of the year. The final days of elementary school for Grade 7s were recognized with **leaving ceremonies**, such as these. Schools have been welcoming next year's Kindergarten students. And high schools have been welcoming future Grade 8s. Grade 12s across the District have been marking the end of their public school journeys with fun activities and dances. **Honouring Our Youth** is a special additional ceremony for Indigenous graduates that follows local protocol. Each high school held ceremonies for all graduates at picturesque **Simon Fraser University**. Diplomas were presented individually. Graduates echoed generations past by ending their rite of passage with a toss of their grad caps.