

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, October 27, 2009

1. Kindergarten Mentorship Program

As part of the Early Learning Program at Windsor Elementary School, kindergarten students became mentors for three and four-year old students from Garden Village Preschool. The Kindergarten Mentorship Program was developed by Sara Fogliato, former Windsor teacher, as a way to explore the possibilities of building leadership capacity in young children.

The preschool and kindergarten students came together once a week with their teachers to play and learn together. As a result of their work, the kindergarten students created the Kindergarten Recipe for Leadership. This program is one example of how schools support early learning and connect with the community.

This evening, Trustees will hear from Sara Fogliato, who now teaches at Sperling Elementary, who will describe the program and its benefits, and from Windsor kindergarten students who will talk about their mentoring experiences.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. EDI Report (from Youth and Community Services Committee Report)

3. Full-Day Kindergarten Implementation

The Ministry of Education has directed Boards of Education to begin a two stage process to implement full day Kindergarten beginning September 2010. The Board must submit to the Ministry on November 1, 2009 a proposal containing proposed school sites, enrolment projections, space requirements and Early Development Instrument (EDI) data. The district is required to introduce full day Kindergarten in half of the district elementary schools in September 2010 and in the other half in 2011. In developing the district's proposal the following guidelines were used to identify school sites for year one and year two implementation:

- Areas of greatest vulnerability (EDI data)
- School space capacity
- Equitable distribution across the school district
- Potential impact on existing early learning programs located in the school

Assistant Superintendent, Gina Niccoli-Moen will present an overview of Burnaby's plans for implementation.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

4. SUMMER SESSION 2009

This evening, District Principal Donna Scott will provide an overview of Summer Session 2009. Following is a summary of the Summer Session programs and some operational issues the district will have to address.

Summer Session 2009 experienced the largest summer program enrolment in district history. A total of 7,802 students were enrolled in a variety of learning opportunities organized by the district. This was an increase of 23% over Summer Session 2008. Classes were held at 21 school locations throughout the district enrolling 3,766 elementary students and 4,036 secondary students. After international students and out-of-district students are taken into account, the total number of Burnaby students enrolled in Summer Session represents 31% of the district's student population.

Secondary Advance Credit courses were once again the most popular with 2,884 students enrolled in Grade 10 – 12 subjects. These courses provided students with the opportunity to acquire credit for courses not yet taken or to upgrade a mark. Courses with the highest enrolment were:

- Math 10 – 353 students
- Social Studies 11 – 323 students
- Math 12 – 307 students
- Science 10 – 305 students

English as a Second Language courses enrolled 221 secondary students. Burnaby North was the largest secondary Summer Session site with 1315 students attending classes followed by Moscrop with 1,293 students.

At the elementary level a record 3,776 students, an increase of 42% over 2008 enrolment, enjoyed a wide variety of learning opportunities ranging from skill and language development, transition programs for those going into Grades 1 and 4 and 8 and enrichment courses that focused on Reading, Writing, Study Skills, Essay/Report Writing, Mathematics and Problem Solving, Science, Learning with Laughter, Sports and Fine Arts. Marlborough Elementary was the largest of the 17 elementary Summer Session sites with 1012 students attending classes. A total of 505 elementary students took English as a Second Language classes.

In addition to the Summer Session, a number of summer programs for children and youth were offered at each of the district's seven community schools. These programs included enrichment, sports, crafts, camping outings, drama and leadership skills, and were provided in cooperation with a number of community organizations. For the second year, the school district received a grant from 2010 Legacies Now to continue to offer "Explorarts", a program that integrates the Fine Arts and daily physical education.

In total the summer session 2009 program used 536 classrooms in 25 schools and employed 442 staff.

Providing a service of this size and complexity during the summer months continues to present a unique set of administration and logistical challenges including:

- Registration and data management infrastructure
- Recruitment of qualified teachers to meet program demand
- Increased cost associated with utilizing more school sites
- Supervision of multiple school sites
- Shift in perception from summer session as a voluntary learning opportunity to summer session as a core educational service that should be available at every school

District staff are in the process of reviewing the summer session program to address these issues and will update the Board of the plans for summer session 2010 in January.

A great deal of credit for the success of this program should go to the Summer Session program personnel, district maintenance workers and school staff who work collaboratively to identify creative ways to share resources and facilities and co-exist in order to provide these valuable learning opportunities.

Recognition should also be given to Ms. Scott and the Summer Session administration team and to the support staff in the district's Children, Youth and Community Services division for their exemplary work in getting a program the size of Summer Session 2009 "up and effectively running" once again in a very short period of time.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.