

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, December 10, 2013

1. Student Fundraiser for Philippine Relief

In early November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan, an exceptionally powerful tropical cyclone, devastated portions of Southeast Asia, particularly the Philippines. District students were quick to ask the question “What can we do to help?” and so began a district-wide fundraising initiative that students, staff, parents and the community embraced.

Tonight, Burnaby North Principal, Gordon Li, who brought the vision for the initiative to the Burnaby Leadership team, will introduce some of the students who spearheaded initiatives at their schools. They will then present an, as of yet, undisclosed cheque to Sofia Joensuu, a representative from the Canadian Red Cross – an amount that will be matched by the Federal Government to make a real difference in the lives of the people of the Philippines

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. Alpha Secondary School Chamber Choir

Alpha Secondary School’s Chamber Choir is an auditioned group of young musicians from Grades 8-12 who simply put, love to sing. They can be caught singing in the halls; everything from Les Miserables to Bohemian Rhapsody. This group also works on more advanced arrangements for the choir. All of these students are also members of Alpha’s 70 voice Concert Choir and both the Chamber Choir and the Concert Choir have been invited to perform at Music Fest Canada – the Nationals, in May 2014.

This evening, Reg LaPlante, Program Consultant – Visual and Performing Arts will introduce teacher Paul Dudley and the 20 students who make up Alpha Secondary School’s Chamber Choir, who will share their talents with us.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3. Class Size and Composition

The provisions of Section 72 of the School Act require the Superintendent of Schools to report to the Board of Education any changes to class size and composition that occur throughout the school year. The following report outlines changes to date for 2013-2014. These updates will be reported to the Board quarterly.

Elementary

| September | October | November | December | January | February | March | April | May | June |
|-----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|
| 52 | 52 | 55 | | | | | | | |

| | Classes exceeding Limit / Guidelines | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | April | May | June |
| Elementary | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| Secondary (all classes) | 39 | 35 | 36 | | | | | | | |
| Secondary (without excluded) | 4 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| Total | 39 | 35 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

4. Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement 2013-2014

The School Act requires the Superintendent of Schools to prepare and submit a report on student achievement to the Board of Education. This annual report on student achievement is intended to ensure transparency and accountability for each school district in terms of its responsibility for improving student achievement. The report also provides information that will facilitate planning for the continuing improvement of student achievement at the school and district levels.

The Report is required to provide specific evidence and measures of student achievement in the areas of literacy, school completion, early learning, and aboriginal education as well as a progress report on children in care.

Tonight, Superintendent of Schools, Kevin Kaardal will share highlights from the report.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive and approve the 2013-2014 Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement.