

# Good News

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## ABOVE AND BEYOND

This year 17 people stood out amongst 350 nominees for the Fraser Health's "Above and Beyond" award. Being recognized for the work she does providing care, services and supports to BC School for the Deaf students was Occupational Therapist, Darlene Allred. Ten years ago her primary role was to assist students who had fine motor skill difficulties in signing. Over the years the school is seeing children with more complex health issues and so Darlene has adapted her role to the ever-changing needs of her students. Working tirelessly to ensure that no student's care needs are overlooked, Burnaby Schools is grateful to have her on the team. Congratulations Darlene!

## BURNABY SCHOOLS READ!

Many of Burnaby's secondary school libraries have recently launched their popular "School Reads" programs. This pilot program began 9 years ago at Burnaby North as a way to promote literacy and challenge the entire school community to read as many of the titles on a list of nominated books as possible. Once read they share their thoughts in book club discussions before voting for the title every student should read before leaving the school. The program has been a huge success in promoting a culture of reading. In fact, today, all Burnaby secondary schools now run their own version of "Vikings Read" and the program has been replicated in schools around the province. Get Reading!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

Guru Nanak, born in 1469, was the founder of Sikhism and the first of the Sikh Gurus. His birth is celebrated world-wide on Kartik Purnamashi, the full-moon day which falls on different dates each year in the month of Katak. For 5 years, the Sikh community at Second Street Community School has come together to prepare a vegetarian Indian feast for students, staff and community in his honour. The celebration has expanded over the years and now students from Cariboo Hill Secondary, many of them former Second Street students, come to join their families in hosting this event. It is a tradition that highlights the spirit of the school community and beyond and the school appreciated the trustees and district staff who were able to join the celebration.

## ETC.

There has been an explosion of good news items come in since the last Board meeting on October 28. Items not mentioned in detail include Halloween Fireworks at Second Street and Gilmore Community School, Culturefest at Burnaby Mountain, a family of schools gathering at Cariboo, the Voices 41 Concert, VSO Maestro Bramwell Tovey's visit to