

Board Report November 17, 2021

I am pleased to highlight some of the work of the Board since the last report in October.

Partner Liaison Meetings: Representatives of the Board and senior staff attended the BCSTA Partner Liaison Meetings on October 14th and 15th. These meetings are an opportunity to discuss current educational issues and included a presentation by Minister of Education, Jennifer Whiteside and a number of in-service sessions on framework for enhancing student learning, equity to education and anti-racism action plans.

This past month has seen several noteworthy recognition events take place.

- **Indigenous Artwork Unveiling:** At the start of the month, I was fortunate, on behalf of the Board to attend a relieving ceremony that saw the unveiling of two Indigenous artworks at École Salish Secondary. The 20-foot mural and 14-foot weaving were completed by local Katzie and Musqueam artists and further serve as an important reflection of our community's link to these traditional ancestral lands and their heritage.
- **Take Your Kids to Work Day:** Also at the start of the month, we saw the return of Take Our Kids to Work Day at Surrey Schools. While last year's event was virtual due to the pandemic, this year allowed for a modified return of Grade 9 students whose parents work across the district. This important annual event grants students a first-hand look career paths and, for many, puts them on the road toward determining what they may wish to pursue after graduating.
- **2021 Retirees:** For the second year in a row, The Board recognized and honoured the past year's retirees remotely due to the ongoing pandemic. A total of 244 district employees retired during the 2020-2021 school year, and each is deserving of our thanks and gratitude for their commitment to student learning.
- **Remembrance Day 2021:** Trustees observed Remembrance Day and attended various wreath laying ceremonies. We were proud of the safe ways our schools and communities were able to create learning opportunities and events to honour this day of recognition.

Thank you.