

# How We're Doing Strategic Plan 2024-25 Highlights & Accomplishments



## Indigenous Education & Reconciliation

- INCREASE in six-year graduation rate for Indigenous students from 64% in 2022-23 to 78% in 2023-24
- RENEWED additional leaving ceremony, through partnership with local Elders, for Indigenous students in Grade 7 going into high school
- EVERY elementary Indigenous student invited to participate in year-long local teachings & drumming for "Greeting of the Day"

## Diversity & Inclusion

- FIRST high school Unified Basketball league with 6 teams of youth with disabilities or diverse abilities, alongside student leaders
- 200+ attended the District's largest yet & 3rd annual elementary Freedom to Celebrate Family Pride Picnic
- QUADRUPLED number of newcomers receiving digital literacy & navigation support in other languages or English through the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) program

## Engagement

- FIRST Indigenous Education Council for the District established with Host Nations to support Reconciliation & Indigenous Education
- INSIGHT provided by focus groups where 10 students from 2 high schools shared thoughts to strengthen accessibility at schools
- 2900+ students, staff, parents & caregivers provided thoughts on the direction of the new Strategic Plan, helping to shape the District's future

## Sustainability & Environment

- REDUCED greenhouse gas emissions by 5% or the equivalent of taking 70 cars off the road for a year with energy efficiency projects
- NEW resource portal launched to support classroom learning & teaching about sustainability
- EXPANDED pilot program to one-third of schools, reducing waste with new bins & systems to more easily align with City recycling requirements

## Mental Health

- 250+ parents & caregivers attended a virtual presentation to learn how to support their children with healthier social media habits
- FIRST-EVER Mental Health Initiatives Networking Event for students representing all 8 high schools to share ideas & strategies, supporting good mental health
- NEW stress management program created to support families of students who are refugees from war-torn countries

## District Leadership

- DOUBLED Summer Session afternoon sites from 4 to 8, increasing full-day options for families
- 88% of schools now offer a meal program for students, with utilization of provincial Feeding Futures fund, & 2 new sites added with support from School Food Infrastructure Program
- FIRST 50 school staff completed Rick Hansen Foundation Inclusion & Accessibility Certification to enhance accessibility in schools

## Student Voice

- 150+ Indigenous students helped strengthen learning through their input at the Indigenous Youth Gathering
- 100 high school students engaged with District & McCreary Centre Society facilitators to help inform school supports for students' well-being
- NEW summer program for older newcomer youth created after students identified the need for connection outside of the school year

## Student Excellence

- \$11.1 million in scholarships earned by the Class of 2025, beating last year's record by \$300,000
- 2 provincial gold winners & 1 silver national winner in the Skills Canada competitions in trades & technology
- 20% of the medals at the Concours provincial French-speaking competition earned by Burnaby Schools students, with 2 qualifying for Nationals

## Staff Excellence

- 19% increase in class numbers for the District's Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) program
- 8% increase in refugee families with children in District, many with complex needs, supported by District's SWIS program
- RECORD BREAKING total of 310 Deaf & Hard of Hearing students from across BC attended DHHproud event

## Child Care

- 2 new before & after school child care centre designs completed for licensing pre-approvals, with construction to start in 2026
- COMPLETED construction on new elementary before & after school child care & preschool, creating 34 new spaces
- NEW once-per-week child care created for newcomer parents in the District for use while parents attend computer literacy programs & women's support groups

## Collaboration & Partnership

- NEW Learn to Swim pilot project launched with the City of Burnaby for Grade 5 students to get swimming lessons during school hours
- EXPANDED from 9 to 11 schools the tutoring program put on with Simon Fraser University for Grade 4 to 12 students
- NEW collaborative Equity Diversity & Inclusion Committee created to develop Anti-Racism Framework for the District

## Technology

- FIRST District-wide guidelines created for Artificial Intelligence use at school, along with professional development for staff to guide students with appropriate AI-use
- 6 high schools participated in Bring Your Own Device laptop program, with over 800 devices distributed to support digital learning
- 14 schools worked with Accessible Resource Centre BC to learn ways to enhance digital accessibility for students with disabilities or diverse abilities