

Commission REPORT

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE
COMMISSION

DATE: 2020 July 07

FROM: DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION &
CULTURAL SERVICES

FILE: 9100-22

SUBJECT: 2020/2021 COMMUNITY SCHOOL GRANT

PURPOSE: To request approval and authorization of an agreement with the Burnaby School District # 41 for the support and operation of eight Community Schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** approval be given for the expenditure of \$516,872.00 as the City of Burnaby's share of the operating funds for the 2020/2021 Community School Program.
2. **THAT** the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend Council authorize the execution of an agreement with the Burnaby School District #41 for the support and operation of eight Community Schools (Byrne Creek, Edmonds, Gilmore, Lochdale, Maywood, Second Street, Stoney Creek and Stride Avenue).
3. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Burnaby Board of Education for their information.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The City of Burnaby and School District #41 have been working together since 1974 to provide services to the citizens of Burnaby. The eight Burnaby Community Schools fill a valuable role in our neighbourhoods by welcoming community into the facilities throughout the day for programs, events, resources, and gathering spaces. They provide an additional layer of recreation and community services to the citizens of Burnaby in a warm, inviting and encouraging environment. In response to the CoVid19 pandemic, the Community Schools have adapted their programming to respond to new and emerging

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community needs and will continue to do so as the new school year unfolds. The following are a few examples of this work:

Early Learning

- Virtual opportunities in collaboration with StrongStart Educators and Burnaby Family Life

Out of School Time

- Virtual opportunities in partnership with Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver, Simon Fraser University Art Club, Burnaby Neighbourhood House (BNH) -Friendship Club, Canada Scores & Burnaby Family Life
- Use of school facilities as childcare for essential service workers
- Online girls' group and online boy's group for vulnerable students
- Burnaby Youth COVID Response Team - youth from grades 9-12 working together "To foster and build a sense of community and provide relevant information to students across Burnaby during the COVID-19 pandemic."
- Preparing and sharing resources and information with parents about how to enrich home learning experiences and virtual meetings to help parents successfully manage on-line learning at home

Community and Family Engagement and Supports

- Engagement with multiple community partners for food security (BNH, United Way, Food Bank, Vancouver Christian School, Guru Nanak, ReFood, Breakfast for Learning) including a hot lunch program – distribution of 600 hot lunches a day
- After School Sport and Art Initiative Program (ASSAI)– evening outdoor events for isolated families
- Links to Tech Education and online Adult Education (in partnership with Canucks Family Education Centre)
- Educational books, games, laptops and Tech lessons for families in need
- Connecting families to services and support – food security, mental wellness, health supports – virtually and in their neighbourhood
- Weekly email newsletters and website updates
- Wellness visits and calls to check in on vulnerable families
- Smile for Smile and Virtual Visitor project with neighbourhood Care Centres

The work of the Community Schools is guided by the District Community School Advisory and Coordinating Committee (DCSACC). Committee members are parent representatives from each community school, one School Trustee, one Commission member, one Council member and one member at large, with the support of City and School District staff. As has been the practice for over 40 years, DCSACC requests the

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School District and the City of Burnaby provide the funds for the continued operation of the eight Community Schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

A letter from the Burnaby School District #41 (Attachment #1) outlines the Community Schools' operating budget and funding sources for the upcoming year. This budget is a \$18,759.00 increase to overall base contribution levels from the City to address increases of employee wages and benefits for 2020/2021. The School District will also increase its contribution by \$18,759.00. This funding is distributed equally to each school and covers their core requirements. All Community Schools supplement their community education programs and neighbourhood activities through a variety of fund raising activities, grants, donations and sponsorships.

2.0 POLICY SECTION

Goal

The Community School Grant aligns with the Corporate Strategic Plan in the following ways:

A Connected Community

- Enhance social connections throughout Burnaby
- Work collaboratively with educational institutions

An Inclusive Community

- Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community
- Provide opportunities that encourage and welcome all community members and procreate a sense of belonging

A Healthy Community

- Encourage opportunities for healthy living and well-being
- Improve upon and develop programs and services that enable ongoing learning

A Dynamic Community

- Manage change by balancing economic development with environmental protection and maintaining a sense of belonging

A Thriving Organization

- Ensure that our core values are reflected in our policies, programs and service delivery

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3.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that approval be given for the expenditure of \$516,872.00 as the city's share of the funds to operate Burnaby's Community schools. The funds are included in the City's Annual Budget.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "D. Ellenwood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave Ellenwood
DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

DE:km
Attachment

Copied to: City Solicitor
Director Finance
Director Planning and Building