

## **Burnaby District Parent Advisory Council**

5325 Kinkaid Street, Burnaby, BC, V5G 1W2

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Parents frustrated at job action stalemate

Burnaby DPAC advocates for Classroom Resources & Support

August 22, 2014

**Burnaby, BC** – Parents want students back in school September 2, and are frustrated to have students stuck in the middle of another labor dispute between the BCTF and BCPSEA reports Burnaby DPAC, the recognized voice of parents in Burnaby School District #41.

The Burnaby DPAC sent a letter to both the BCTF and BCPSEA urging them to start negotiations in earnest so that the start of the school year is not delayed.

"We know our teachers, district staff and trustees care deeply about students and education, but parents are finding it increasingly difficult to see how a prolonged labor dispute is in the best interest of our students' immediate educational needs," says Jen Mezei, Burnaby DPAC Chair.

The Burnaby DPAC has also endorsed the recommendations made at the DPAC Chair Summit hosted by BCCPAC (see report at www.burnabydpac.com) to advocate for additional funding to address classroom needs.

"Parents are speaking up across the province. Our students need resource and support levels to enhance the learning of all students. We are lucky in Burnaby to have a fiscally well-managed district, but our classrooms are still feeling the pinch. We are proud to live in a diverse city with a community focused district. We need to ensure our education system meets the diverse needs of learners in our classrooms to help every child reach their potential."

## **About Burnaby DPAC**

The Burnaby District Parent Advisory Council, known as Burnaby DPAC, represents the interests of Burnaby parents in the public education system. The Burnaby DPAC is an advisory and advocacy council made up of representatives from PACs in Burnaby School District #41, and is the recognized voice of parents at the district level.