



West Vancouver Board of Education Chair Cindy Dekker and Eagle Harbour Montessori Vice-Principal Val Stevenson chat with students about the day's learning. This unique school for students from Kindergarten to Grade 5 is an excellent example of the rich diversity of programs offered in the "premier place for learning".

The Sky's the Limit

The many success stories coming out of public education across Canada never cease to inspire those of us serving as trustees on the West Vancouver Board of Education.

Our latest source of inspiration came from Ben Levin, former Deputy Minister of Education in Ontario, who delivered a powerful, positive message at a recent Educational Leadership Conference in Vancouver.

He reminded us that Canada has one of the highest performing public education systems in the world but suggested we haven't "hit the top of our potential and the drive to improve must be unrelenting".

Levin challenged us to continue to push for better teaching, better programming and better use of resources – goals our staff strive to achieve every day in West Vancouver, Lions Bay and Bowen Island.

How do we reach them? His ideas align with ours; by continuing to provide relevant curriculum and classrooms, building personal relationships with students and families and forging strong community connections.

With the holiday season approaching, I'd like to celebrate our successes and suggest that the "sky's the limit" when it comes to our potential in the West Vancouver School District.

I'd also like to invite you to enjoy the musical talents of our students at the various Winter Concerts taking place over the next few weeks. Please check out our website www.sd45.bc.ca for more details.

Happy Holidays,

Cindy Dekker, Board Chair

WHAT'S NEW

Ridgeview Elementary Vice-Principal Summits Mt. Kilimanjaro

Craig Cantlie recently brought greetings and gifts from the West Vancouver School District to children in Africa. Cantlie made the climb as part of a *Summits of Hope* team raising money for B.C. Children's Hospital inspiring his students to think globally and "take action" along the way.



WVSD Superintendent's Blog wins National Award

Chris Kennedy's "Culture of Yes" blog has been honoured as the country's Best Overall Education Blog by MindShare Learning. Superintendent Kennedy's blog posts on timely educational issues are read and commented on by thousands of local and global followers. Join the conversation at cultureofyes.ca.



West Vancouver Board of Education

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Trustee Reema Faris
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The premier place for learning.

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