Media Release

For immediate release (2 pages):

BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association
2026 BCPVPA Partnership Awards
Honour Individuals and Organizations in Your Community

(VANCOUVER, BC) Thursday November 26, 2026 – The BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association (BCPVPA) and our 2,700 members believe that community partnerships are critical to supporting success for BC public school students. We are honouring the five 2026 recipients of the BCPVPA Partnership Award who have made a difference for students and schools in the Central Okanagan, Richmond, Vancouver, the West Boundary region, and West Vancouver,

This year, we honour individuals and organizations who champion literacy, belonging, and community connection, and create a lasting impact on local schools and the wider community.

The 2026 recipients were honoured on Friday November 20 in a ceremony at the JW Marriott Parq Vancouver Hotel, on the traditional and unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and Sel̓íl̓witulh (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples.

"Our Partnership Awards help our members, as educational leaders in their communities, to say *thank you*," says BCPVPA President, Sid Jawanda. "The 2026 award recipients represent just a fraction of the passionate individuals, organizations, and businesses who make an indelible contribution to their villages, towns, and cities when they dedicate their time and resources to helping BC students to thrive. This is our next generation of citizens, and our goal is to help them be successful in K-12 and beyond."

For more than two decades, the BCPVPA has presented the Partnership Awards in recognition of the time and expertise that local citizens dedicate to supporting BC students and schools. Nominations are submitted by the BCPVPA's sixty Chapters that provide professional support to Principals and Vice-Principals across the province.

The 2026 BCPVPA Partnership Awards recipients share what the recognition means to them:

Project Literacy Central Okanagan Society, nominated by the Central Okanagan Chapter (School District No. 23)
"Project Literacy Central Okanagan Society is thrilled to be a recipient of the 2026 BCPVPA Partnership Award! Project Literacy was founded in 1986 and is a registered charity. We have been providing reading support for students in grades 1-5 since 2018. Trained adult volunteers go into the elementary schools in SD 23 and read with students twice a week. During the 2025-26 school year the One-to-One Reading Program helped 146 children across 14 schools improve their reading skills."

Richmond Secondary School Alumni Association, nominated by the Richmond Chapter (School District No. 38)
"The Richmond Secondary School Alumni Association (SD38) was formed by past students and staff in 1988. The primary goal of the Alumni is to enrich the academic and extracurricular lives of the current RSS students. Former students and staff volunteer their time at special events, present scholarships, and more
We are most honoured to be recognized by the BCPVPA Partnership Award for all that we have accomplished for the RSS community."

Justin Borsato, nominated by the Vancouver Chapter (School District No. 39)
"It is an honour to accept the BCP VPA Partnership Award. I am so fortunate to be an educator in the Britannia community. It is an extraordinary environment filled with resilience, compassion and a deep commitment to one another. My students inspire me every day with their spirit, curiosity and potential. It is a privilege to work in this community, and I am extremely proud to accept this award on its behalf."

Shannon Ozirny, nominated by the West Vancouver Chapter (School District No. 45)
"It is tremendously meaningful to be recognized by this group of hard-working, tireless, community builders. I see the challenges that school administrators, and all educators, face in their daily work and it feeds my spirit to be on the same team supporting student literacy, critical thinking and the joy of experiencing stories in all formats."

West Boundary Community Forest, nominated by the Boundary Chapter (School District No. 51)
"We are truly honoured to receive this recognition. At West Boundary Community Forest, we believe some of the most meaningful learning happens beyond the classroom — exploring nature, getting hands dirty, and making discoveries that spark curiosity and lasting connections. Our Outdoor Education Centre brings that belief to life. This award also celebrates the wonderful partnerships with educators, Indigenous knowledge keepers, and community members who help us inspire the next generation through outdoor learning."

Visit our website for more information.

Photographs of the recipients at the 2026 BCPVPA Partnership Awards ceremony are available upon request, please contact sandra@bcpvpa.bc.ca

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The BC Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association is a voluntary professional association representing more than 2,700 educational leaders in BC's 60 public school districts. The BCPVPA provides its members with the professional services and support they need to provide exemplary leadership in public education.

The BCPVPA Partnership Awards are presented annually to groups and individuals who have, over an extended period, shared their time, energy, and expertise to support BC public schools and students. The Awards are an opportunity for BC Principals and Vice-Principals in local Chapters to nominate a group, organization, or individual who has had a positive impact on the local community and has offered ongoing, valuable support over the years. Up to six awards are presented each year, and recipients receive a beautiful, framed print by Haida Gwaii artist Bill Bedard, depicting an owl for wisdom, and an eagle for focus, strength, and leadership.

For more information on the BCPVPA, or to speak with 2026-2028 BCPVPA President Sid Jawanda and hear the stories of Principals and Vice-Principals in BC, please contact:

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