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# The New Tanner

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## School musical combined history, music and dance

By: Alex Hilson

Robert Little Public School held their musical "Dig It! A Musical Tale of Ancient Civilizations" on Thursday, May 17. The show included eight Robert Little classes from grades two to five, plus Robert Little's Everyday Dance Club and Glow Choir, involving 165 students in its final form. Tickets were sold out.

"I was very proud of all the students who participated in this musical," said Marie Burland,

teacher and director of the musical. "They worked extremely hard learning their lines, songs and choreography and put on an amazing performance."

Burland chose the musical after previewing many other ones. She knew the students would enjoy singing the upbeat songs and performing the scenes with all the interesting characters. "I was inspired by the fact that this musical combines history and music. From Mesopotamia to Egypt to

India, China, Greece and Rome, students were able to learn and discover facts from the past, while they were singing and dancing."

Burland started working on the musical in March, adding choreography and included two additional songs—there weren't enough songs in the original musical for all the classes and dance groups to perform.

Almost 50 grades four and five students auditioned for speaking and singing parts in the music-



al. With a larger "Greek Chorus", Burland was able to find a part for every student. "I am grateful for the help from Education Assistant (EA) Daina

McKellar who designed and painted the set, plus contributed some props, and EA Margo Welke who worked very hard making costumes," continued

Burland. "Events like this are important to bring the Robert Little community together, to celebrate the enthusiasm and talent of our students."

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