

## Information for Families of Elementary Students

### Topics:

- **Language Program Info Sessions**
- **Secondary School Open Houses**
- **Transitioning Children with Exceptional Learning Needs**
- **Registration for 2017/18 School Year**
- **School Calendar for 2017/18**
- **Parent Input on Report Cards - Survey Reminder**
- **City of Burnaby Activity Programs**
- **Snow and Ice Removal**

### Language Program Options - Info Sessions

Burnaby Schools offer a variety of programs to support student success including elementary school language programs. French Immersion options include Early Immersion (Kindergarten or grade 1) or Late Immersion (grade 6). A parent information evening will be held at École Brantford on Thursday, January 26 at 6:30 pm. Another elementary language option is Mandarin Language Arts for students entering K to grade 7. A parent information evening will be held at Forest Grove Elementary on Tuesday, January 24 at 6 pm. [LEARN MORE](#)

### Secondary School Open Houses

Burnaby's Secondary Schools offer many opportunities for students to be inspired to reach their potential. Learning options include Career Education, Independent Directed Studies, Summit Programs, athletic academies, a mini-school for high ability learners, and the AP Capstone Diploma Program. Parents and students are invited to attend our Secondary School Open House events. They provide a chance to tour the schools, meet the teachers and principals, and learn about optional programs and course selection. You'll also find out how to register for Fall 2017 if you're new to the district or considering a school outside your catchment. Event details are available on each school website. [LEARN MORE](#)

### Transitioning Children with Exceptional Learning Needs

During Secondary School Open Houses, the school's Learning Support Services team will provide information on how the District prepares students with exceptional learning needs for a smooth transition from elementary school to high school. Parents will have an opportunity to meet with Learning Support Services Staff to get a better understanding of the programs and supports available at each high school, and hear about some of the transition activities that are unique to each high school. [LEARN MORE](#)

## **Register in February for the 2017/18 School Year**

Do you have a child who will be entering kindergarten in the fall? Do you want your child to attend a school that is not their local school next year? Are you looking at submitting an application for your child to attend a specialized program? Or do you know families in Burnaby or outside Burnaby who might wish to attend a Burnaby District school next year for the first time? Please note that registration for the upcoming school year begins on February 1 and priority placement will be given to applications received in February. [LEARN MORE](#)

## **School Calendar for 2017/18**

Next year's school calendar, that identifies the District's winter vacation, Spring break, District closure days, and District Pro-D days must be approved by the Board by the end of March. District staff are presently working on this calendar and anticipate taking it to the February 27 public board meeting for approval. Once approved, it will be shared with families and staff and posted on the District website.

## **Parent Input Sought to Track Student Progress**

The Ministry of Education is seeking parent input with regards to student reporting for the redesigned curriculum. The ultimate goal is to develop a student reporting process that gives families a deeper understanding of their child's progress at school through timely and comprehensive information. Until February 28, you can submit your thoughts online by clicking [HERE](#).

## **Spring Break Opportunities**

The City of Burnaby is a valued partner in education. During Spring Break, March 13 to 24 and on February 17 (District Pro-D day) they are offering a wide range of activity options. Limited spaces are available so early registration is recommended. Please view these options by clicking [HERE](#).

## **Snow and Ice Removal Continues**

The safety of students and staff is always our priority. While this long stretch of cold winter weather has created its challenges, our facilities teams have been out in full force following our snow removal procedures. Before staff/students arrive each day, and then throughout the day, our priorities include:

- Clearing snow from school entrances, drop-off zones and parking lots
- Salting/sanding sidewalks, school entrances, drop-off zones and parking lots

We appreciate the support of the City of Burnaby in clearing main roads and our neighbours for removing snow and ice off of their sidewalks. If you have any school-specific concerns, please speak to your school principal who will get this information to the Director of Facilities Services. Additionally, GT Lynch bus service is advising us of any issues they might encounter with student transportation.

As the snow and cold temperatures persist, we encourage everyone to dress for the weather and to exercise caution when walking or driving. Thank you for your patience as we work together to keep our school sites safe.

For school-based enquiries please contact your school principal. For district enquiries email: [communications@sd41.bc.ca](mailto:communications@sd41.bc.ca)

Communication Services

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