

Core Competencies Conversations For Grade 8 and 9 Students – Thursday May 2nd, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As part of the new curriculum requirements as mandated by the B.C. Ministry of Education, all grade 8 and 9 students are required to reflect on the *Core Competencies* for their year-end report card. The *Core Competencies* are sets of intellectual, personal, and social/emotional proficiencies that all students need to develop in order to engage in deep learning and life-long learning. The core competencies have always been part of the curriculum in every subject; however, there has now been a shift to explicitly teach these important skills in our classrooms.

To this end, grade 8 and 9 students will be participating in Core Competency Conversations on **Thursday May 2nd, 2019**. With a teacher mentor, grade 8 students will be sharing one thing they have done this year that they are proud of, and grade 9 students will be sharing one area that is challenging for them where they have experienced further growth. They will then connect this example to one of the competencies they have learned about during our collaborative time sessions. To aid students in this process, we have asked all students to bring an “artifact” to the meeting that demonstrates their learning. This can be a picture, a project from a class, or even a video on their mobile device. The possibilities are endless!

Please connect with your child before May 2nd to discuss the artifact and the competency they plan to share with their teacher mentor. Practice talking about their ideas out loud will make them feel more relaxed and comfortable about this process. Again, this day is a time to have **conversations** -- we are there to support your child and celebrate their accomplishments.

To accommodate our conversations, there will be a **late start** to the school day on Thursday May 2nd **for grades 10-12 only**. Grade 8 and 9 students are asked to report to their assigned classroom at 8:40 am. These classroom/teacher mentor assignments will be posted in the Student Commons on Monday April 29th. Please see the bell schedule below for further details.

If you are interested in reading further about British Columbia’s new curriculum and the Core Competencies, please see: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>

Thank you for your support.

Burnaby Central’s Core Competency Team