

August 20, 2020

Dear Families, Students, and Staff,

With just three weeks left until we welcome students back to school, I want to update you on some developments.

Ministry Update

On Monday all school districts received operational guidelines from the Ministry to support the creation of our restart plans. Among the updates are a requirement that teachers, staff, middle and secondary students wear masks in high traffic areas, such as hallways. You can learn more [here](#).

Local Update

As we continue to receive new information, district staff are working hard on the many details that need to be applied at the local level, as well as consulting with our partner groups. I would like to extend sincere appreciation to our District Parent Advisory Council, Burnaby Teachers' Association, CUPE Local 379, Burnaby Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association and district staff for their insight and ongoing feedback. Following consultation, we are required to share our plans this Friday with the Ministry of Education for approval.

While we are continuing to look at options, and as things continue to evolve, I anticipate the following may remain unchanged regarding our district restart plan:

For All

- Staggered start and dismissal times, staggered lunch and other breaks, as well as controlled traffic flow – all to decrease contacts and hallway interactions.
- Students will be in learning groups to reduce and manage the numbers of close contacts at school.
- No school-wide assemblies or other large gatherings will be held.
- Outdoor learning will be encouraged.
- Regular hand-washing will be actively promoted.
- Enhanced cleaning of buildings and high traffic areas will be prioritized.
- Students or staff with illness symptoms must stay home.

For Elementary Schools

- We are planning for students to attend school every day.
- Students would be organized into classrooms, as students' primary learning environment with instruction from their classroom teacher.
- Learning groups would be established with no more than two classrooms in each group.
- Learning groups would be created within like grade levels.

For Secondary Schools

- We are planning for the school year to be divided into 10 week quarters.
- Students would be placed into Junior Program: Grades 8 & 9; and Graduate Program: Grades 10, 11 & 12.
- Every student would attend school every day.
- In the Junior Program students would attend school all day.
- In the Graduate Program during each quarter, students would attend one class in person every morning and would have a second blended or hybrid class in the afternoon. They would attend that second or blended class in person two afternoons per week and online for the other days.

Additional considerations

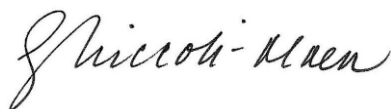
All students will have an Office 365 account and will be placed within a Microsoft Team assigned to their teacher. This will allow students to access learning if there are changes to pandemic stages or if they are at home temporarily due to illness.

While I know you have many more questions about what school will look like in Burnaby in September, please be assured that we will be in a position to share further details and options with you once our plans are approved by the Ministry of Education early next week. For families of children with special needs, please know that staff will also be reaching out to you directly. As previously shared, we will make our approved plans public by August 26. In the meantime, we will continue to post updates, as available, on the District website: www.burnabyschools.ca.

As we prepare to resume in-class instruction, I appreciate the range of feelings families may have. While I encourage you to wait for our approved district plan before making any decisions, I want to share that – as in any school year – you do have the option to home school your child or register for online distributed learning, which are both different from the remote learning at home that took place at the end of the last school year. More information about these choices can be found on the Government of BC's website [here](#). Information about distributed learning in Burnaby can be found [here](#).

It is with deep appreciation that I thank you for your patience and support, as we work hard to ensure a smooth and safe return to school. I am very much looking forward to welcoming students, families, and staff to the 2020-21 school year. I hope that you have been able to make the most of this unusual summer.

Wishing you all the very best,



Gina Niccoli-Moen, Superintendent

 <p>BOARD OF EDUCATION BURNABY SCHOOL DISTRICT 41</p> <p>IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE HAVE THIS TRANSLATED</p> <p>RENSEIGNEMENTS IMPORTANTS Prière de les faire traduire.</p> <p>重要資料 請找人為你翻譯</p>	<p>これはたいせつなお知らせです。 どなたかに日本語に訳してもらってください。</p> <p>알려드립니다 이것을 번역해 주십시오</p> <p>CHỈ DẪN QUAN TRỌNG Xin nhờ người dịch họ</p> <p>ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸੇ ਕੋਲੋਂ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਉਲੱਥਾ ਕਰਵਾਓ ।</p> <p>INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE Busque alguien que le traduzca.</p>	<p>اطلاعات مهم و سودمند لطفاً از یک نفر بخواهید که برای شما ترجمه کند</p> <p>ITO AY MAHALAGANG IMPORMASYON Isalin sa wikang tagalog kung hindi maintindihan</p> <p>يرجى ترجمة هذا معلومات هامة</p> <p>ВАЖНАЯ ИНФОРМАЦИЯ Переведите это, пожалуйста.</p>
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