

Burnaby School District – School Plan

Our Story

Who we are? *(Considerations for ELL, Inclusive Ed, CYOC, Indigenous students)*

We are a dynamic and supportive educational community that values inclusivity. Our atmosphere is inviting and nurturing, featuring a dedicated team of passionate staff members who prioritise the unique needs of every student. We offer a wide range of programs aimed at both academic achievement and enhancing social-emotional well-being.

At present, we have 261 students enrolled in 12 divisions, representing 23 distinct languages. Our English Language Learner (ELL) program supports 100 students, while our Inclusive Education program assists 39 students with Ministry of Education Special Needs Designations. We also have 18 Indigenous students and 4 International students enrolled across all grade levels.

What are we doing well?

Acknowledging and responding to the individual needs of every student for effective learning. Our teachers work to foster a warm, supportive, and inclusive atmosphere that benefits all learners. This collaborative effort involves students, staff, and families coming together to assist learners in their current situations. A sense of community and compassion promotes a family-like environment, allowing everyone to feel valued and supported. Maintaining open lines of communication and support for families to ensure they receive the assistance they need.

Providing extracurricular opportunities for students across all grade levels during school hours with various lunch hour clubs and afterschool sports teams in addition to Parks and Recreation Programs, Soccer, Big Brothers, ACTS, and the Friendship Club, supporting socio-emotional development.

How do we know?

Both formal and informal assessments implemented regularly throughout the year to monitor student progress and inform instructional strategies.

This includes SBT meetings, conducting class evaluations, Ministry Student Learning Surveys, and overserving classroom activities. Additionally, we use benchmark assessments, District Literacy screeners, report card data, FSA results, and ELL assessments.

We maintain strong connections with staff members, including teachers, educational assistants, school counselor, and specialised support teams (LST, DLST, SLP etc.). Effective communication with students, teacher and parents is also essential in this ongoing process.

Our focus:

SEL – Increase student ability to communicate to peers’ feelings and concerns. Students can continue to recognize and manage their emotions. Understand how their behavior affects others.

- model and teach respectful communication
- teach students to identify and name emotions
- encourage self-reflection
- use Play is the Way and other tools to support emotional regulation

Language Arts – Reading – Increase level of reading fluency and comprehension for all students. Focus on foundational skills (Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Vocabulary Development, Fluency) to increase confidence in reading which will support improved comprehension. Work on Comprehension strategies (thinking and understanding the meaning of text)

- staff always open to working together and learning new skills to best support their students
- staff development - Responding to Readers Community of Practice – 4 teachers participated and then shared learning with others
- Resources to access - literacy framework - sd41learns.ca

-Spring 2024 purchased new resources to support reading (LLI levelled books, Strong Nations, Fountas and Pinnell Assessment Kit)

-Jan 2025 – received additional LSS support, used time to focus on a small group of students (reading twice a week with a teacher and other adults 3 times a week to have consistent and continued practice) – see below for gains noted

-Sept 2025 - UFLI program arriving from primary resource

Results from one-to-one focused instruction with 5 students

| Student | Grade | PM Benchmark Jan 2025 | PM Benchmark June 2025 |
|---------|-------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | 3 | 10 |
| 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 4 | 4 | 5 | 10 |
| 5 | 6 | 11 | 19 |

STRATEGIES (to support Focus)

SEL

- use common language in the school
- WITS (Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek Help)
- Four Step Firebird Apology
- Play is the Way
- Whole class instruction
- SLP/Counselor support
- Daily check ins for students
- Community circle
- Mind Up
- Zones of Regulation
- Peer Mediation Program
- Purposeful Play
- Afterschool programs (Friendship Club, Canada Scores, ACTS program, Big Brothers Program, Soccer, ASSAI Grants)

Reading

- classroom and school wide assessments (PM Benchmarks, Fountas & Pinnell Assessment, District Phonics Assessment)
- LLI kits, Levelled Reading Groups, Guided Reading Groups
- Online programs- Lexia, Reading A-Z
- Reading Power Strategies (Adrienne Gear)
- Focused Reading Support for Indigenous Students, Reading Recovery, One to One Reading Volunteer Program
- Links to Literacy, Buddy Reading, Story Workshop, Adrienne Gear