



Stride Community School

Newsletter

7014 Stride Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V3N 1T4

604-296-9032 StrideAvenue.info@burnabyschools.ca

JANUARY 2025

PRINCIPAL – Mr. Hiltz
HEAD TEACHER – Mr. Cockram
**COMMUNITY SCHOOL
COORDINATOR** – Ms. Krishna
SECRETARY – Ms. Giovanetti

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 6
Pizza Hot Lunch (Fundraiser)
FEBRUARY 16
Family Day (No School)
FEBRUARY 18
Community Council General
Meeting 630pm on-line
FEBRUARY 25
Pink Shirt Day
FEBRUARY 25
School Assembly (parents
welcome)
FEBRUARY 26
Family Movie Night
FEBRUARY 27
Pro D Day (No School)
MARCH 16-27
Spring Break (No School)

TO REPORT AN ABSENCE FOR YOUR CHILD

EMAIL (PREFERRED)
StrideAvenue.info@burnabyschools.ca
PHONE
604-296-9032, press 2 and leave
a message on the absentee
voicemail

Greetings Stride Community:

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday, even though it seems like it was a long time ago. It seems amazing to me that we are at the end of January already. I would like to thank Mr. Kanno for filling in during my absence in December. He did a great job during a very busy time. He enjoyed his time here and was very happy to take part in all the fun and festive activities here at Stride. It was like returning home for him he shared with me. Thanks to everyone for making him feel so welcome. A huge thank you to Ms. Bulanowski for her work on the winter concert. I heard it was amazing. I am sure she is already busy preparing for the Spring performance as well.

Parents of students in Grade 4 and 7 – please ensure you are paying attention to the article – Student Learning Survey 2025/2026 – Parents/Caregivers of Grade 4 and 7 Students. This is your opportunity to provide feedback to the Ministry of Education regarding your child's learning. Please take time to complete the survey. The link can be found on our homepage.

An update on construction – we have been given a new tentative date of the end of May for completion of the new school. Of course, this depends on a variety of things as many of you would be aware if you have ever built a home or done renovations yourself. We will keep you updated as we receive more information. Once we have firm plans and details as to what the move will look like, we will pass along those details as well. It is starting to feel real! The building is looking amazing inside and close to completing outside as well. Please watch for details about a farewell to our current Stride in the coming weeks as well. We recognize that many people have attachments to our existing school and we want to honor and recognize that. We will be holding an event to do so in the near future prior to the move.

Best Wishes Everyone,

Mr. W Hiltz

Principal

Literacy Week at Stride

From January 26-30, Stride celebrated **Literacy Week**, highlighting the importance of reading and writing skills for all family members. Research shows that a child's literacy skills can be strengthened with just **15 minutes of reading each day**. Reading together as a family or engaging in fun literacy activities also helps build children's confidence and strengthens family connections.

As part of the week's activities, we welcomed several guest readers who shared their favorite books with our students. We were delighted to host our Mayor Mike Hurley - City of Burnaby, Kelly Chow (Director of Instruction), Kristin Schnider (Burnaby School Board Chair), members of the Metro Vancouver Transit Police, and several of our parents.

Students also enjoyed special literacy events throughout the week, including Flashlight Reading in the dark, wearing "word shirts," a book giveaway, and a door-decorating contest showcasing each class's favorite book.

Thank you to Ms. Varley's class (Division 4) for their literacy theme decorations at the office. A big thank you to Ms. Pang (Librarian) and our Literacy Committee for organizing such a fun and meaningful week for our students.

WINNERS OF THE DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

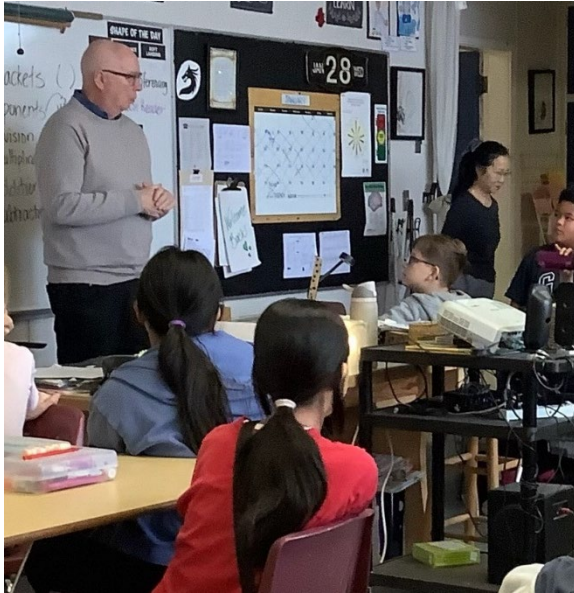


Primary – Division 10
Ms. Sanghera

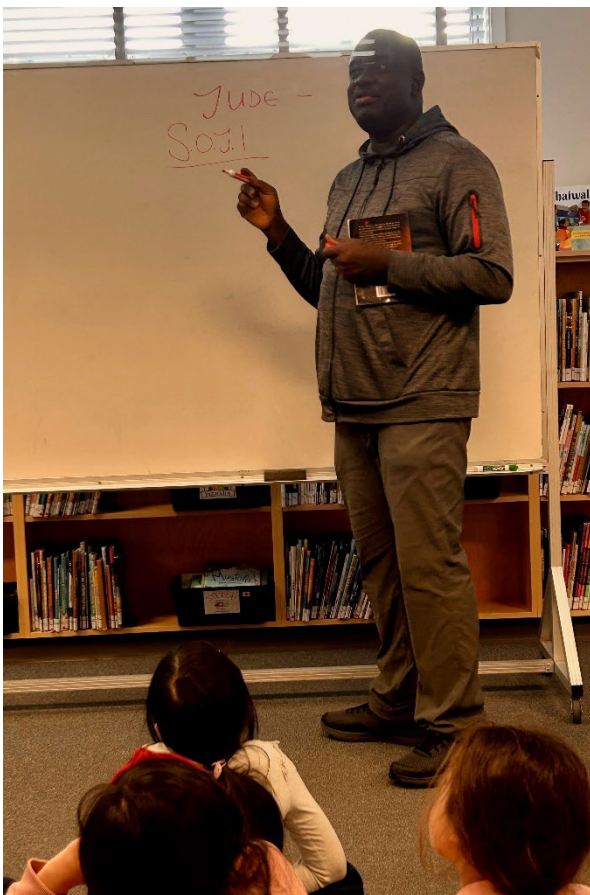


Intermediate – Division 3
Ms. Feretos

Some of our Literacy Week guest speakers:



Mayor Hurley, City of Burnaby



**Jude Ifesemen,
Poet and Stride Parent**



**Kristin Schnider,
Burnaby School Board Chair**

KINDNESS

Division 3 has been participating in “Acts of Kindness” to spread joy in our community. Open the door for a stranger, turn off your screen and spend time with someone, and send a gratitude email to a Stride staffer are just 3 examples. Through this experience, we have learned that kindness makes people’s hearts warm and fuzzy and in turn it makes us happier too. Scientifically, we learned that an act of kindness increases the chemicals in the brain that is responsible for joy. We also learned that while we are making people feel good, our brains are getting a boost too. So, while we are making someone’s day, we are also making our day too. Division 3 encourages everyone to try it out, no matter how small the act. It truly is infectious. Let’s spread kindness.

Briella and Ms. Feretos



COYOTE ACTIVITY IN THE AREA

The school has been informed that there are coyotes in the area. The City of Burnaby is aware of the situation, and they are actively monitoring it.

If you see a coyote near school property, please take the following steps:

- Do not attempt to touch or feed the coyote
- Report the sighting **directly** to the City of Burnaby / BC Conservation Officer at 1-877-952-7277.
- Inform the school office at 604 296 9032 (after reporting the incident to the city)



For more information on how to behave safely around coyotes, please visit [Wildlife in Burnaby](#).

WEEKLY ADULT ENGLISH CONVERSATION CIRCLE



Join us every **Wednesday** in the **Community Room** from **1:15–2:30 p.m.** for an Adult English Conversation Circle. This is a relaxed, welcoming space to chat about a variety of topics while practicing your English speaking and listening skills. Discussion topics change each week, and **drop-in participants are always welcome.**

For more information, please contact **Sandy** at **604-838-6280** or sandhya.krishna@burnabyschools.ca

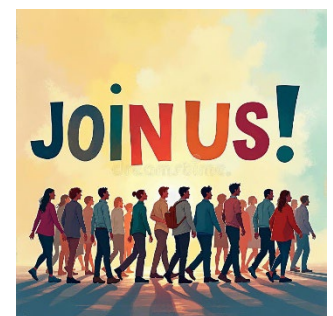
GROUP TOPIC: DEALING WITH CONFLICT

Please join us on **Thursday, February 12** for a parent group discussion on **Dealing with Conflict**. Guest speaker **Sylvia H.** will lead a conversation focused on using communication strategies to work calmly through conflict and find positive solutions.

 **Location:** Community Room

 **Time:** 9:15–10:45 a.m.

 Hosted by the **SWIS Team** and **Coordinator Sandy**



COFFEE IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM

On Tuesday to Friday from 9:15am-10:30am the Community Room is open to parents and caregivers. After school drop off, come for a casual coffee and meet other adults in our community.

S.A.C.C (STRIDE AVENUE COMMUNITY COUNCIL) NEWS



FEBRUARY MEETING

Community Council General Meeting (all parents and guardians welcome to attend)

DATE - Wednesday, February 18th

TIME – 630pm

LOCATION – Online (agenda and meeting link will be emailed to all families)

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

The SACC will be hosting an evening of family fun on **Thursday, February 26th from 5:30–8:30 p.m.** Please save the date.

Families will have the option to **pre-order pizza through School Cash Online.** Popcorn and treats will also be available for purchase at the **concession stand in the gym.**

More details will be shared in **early February.** We hope you can join us for a fun night at the movies (in the gym).



PIZZA DAY FUNDRAISER – FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Pizza Day will take place on **Friday, February 6.** Students who typically bring lunch from home will have the opportunity to participate and enjoy pizza alongside classmates enrolled in the hot lunch program.

This Pizza Day is a **fundraiser in support of the playground at the new Stride School.**

Final day to place orders: Monday, February 2, 2026 at midnight. Orders must be submitted through **School Cash Online.** If you were not able to order pizza, the SACC will be doing another pizza day in the Spring.



POPCORN & HOT CHOCOLATE SALES ARE BACK!

Grab a tasty treat afterschool every **Friday** in the **Gallery!** Popcorn and hot chocolate are **\$1.50 each**, and all proceeds support the Stride Avenue Community Council's (SACC) fundraising efforts.

Thanks for supporting SACC.



FEEDBACK OPPORTUNITY: PROPOSED THREE-YEAR CALENDAR 2026-2029



The Burnaby School District is welcoming feedback until February 10, 2026, about the proposed three-year calendar for the school years 2026-27 through 2028-29. The calendar sets out winter and spring breaks, school closure days, and District-wide professional days.

Click on the following link: [School Calendar Summary 2026-2029](#)

Please note the following:

- The proposed three-year calendar is aligned with most Metro Vancouver school districts.
- Since 2014, the Burnaby School District has been operating with five school closure days. The instructional time lost, due to the closure days, is added to the remaining days in session.
- In the 2026-27 and 2028-29 school years, Good Friday (a statutory holiday) occurs during the typical period of time for spring break. As such, one of the school closure days has been allocated to the Friday before winter break.
- Schools will choose two additional Professional Development Days over the course of the school year for a total of six, including District-wide days. These are published in the spring before the following year's calendar.
- Each year, all Burnaby Schools meet the required hours of instruction.

If you have feedback, please email calendar@burnabyschools.ca before February 10th.

BURNABY SCHOOL DISTRICT - SPRING BREAK CAMPS



For the first time, the Burnaby School District is launching Spring Break Camps for children in Grades 4 to 8.

Camps will last one week, with the option available to book both weeks, if desired. The cost will be **\$400 per week** with programming running from 9am to 3pm,

Monday to Friday (**March 16-20 and March 23-27**).

The camp location choices are:

- Burnaby Mountain (8800 Eastlake Drive),
- Burnaby North (751 Hammarskjold Drive),
- Byrne Creek (7777 18th Street), and
- Moscrop Secondary (4433 Moscrop Street) schools.

Courses

The courses will allow children to try a new skill and have fun, with many of the classes offered during Summer Session – such as Rock Band, cooking, art, and sports.

Registration will open February 17th.

[Learn About Camp Details, Locations and More](#)

REGISTRATION FOR 2026/2027



Registration for new students for the 2026-2027 school year begins **February 2nd, 2026**. Registrations for the 2026-2027 school year are done online through the district website. **No in-person registration.**

<http://www.burnabyschools.ca/registration/>

Parent/Guardians can register their child for **kindergarten**, for September 2026 if **the child was born in 2021**. For documentation required to register please visit:

<https://burnabyschools.ca/registration-information/>

Programs of Choice

The District offers dozens of options, including language programs. Students can explore their interests, support their strengths, or get exposed to a career through a variety of program choices. For most Programs of Choice, applications are received in February for priority placement for the following school year. [Learn more.](#)

For information on the **Early and Late French Immersion program** please visit:

<https://burnabyschools.ca/french-immersion/>

STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY 2025/2026 – PARENTS/CAREGIVERS OF GRADE 4 AND 7 STUDENTS

Please share your thoughts about your child's learning by completing the BC Student Learning Survey (SLS). This survey happens every year and helps us make education better for all students in BC. The Survey gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>.

Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure.

- click on the link above
- on the login page, click on the **Parents icon**
- select the school district and school name where your child attends school.

Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section. The e-survey site will be open until May 1, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact the school at 604-296-9032.



BASES THRIFT STORE – VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS NEEDED!

The Burnaby Association of South-East Side (BASES) has operated a volunteer-run thrift store on Edmonds Street for many years. In the summer of 2025, BASES relocated their thrift store to a new space at **1001 Columbia Street in New Westminster (Columbia Square Plaza)**.

Proceeds from the store have helped fund out-of-school and after-school programs in local schools, including Stride. Through BASES' annual donations, hundreds—if not thousands—of students have been able to participate in subsidized afterschool programs such as drama, visual arts, dance, sports, and leadership activities.

They are currently seeking volunteers to support operations at this new location. If you're unable to volunteer, you can still help by donating gently used adult clothing or household items.

The store is open **daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

📞 Phone: 604-540-0110

🌐 Website: www.basesburnaby.ca

By supporting BASES, you are making enrichment opportunities accessible to students in our community! Thank-you!!

DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC): PARENT FEEDBACK SURVEY RESULTS

In the fall the Burnaby DPAC hosted a Parent Feedback Survey created to better understand how current funding decisions and district priorities are affecting families and school communities across Burnaby.

The DPAC reported that the Survey received 236 responses, with over 80% identifying as parents/guardians, representing families from elementary and secondary schools across the district.

Survey themes included:

- Concerns regarding the adequacy of provincial funding and the impact of inflation.
- Staffing pressures affecting student support and learning conditions.
- Facilities and capacity challenges, including portables and overcrowding.
- Impacts of recent program reductions on families.
- Limited clarity among respondents about where and when parent feedback is most effective.

The DPAC will use the information gathered from this survey to:

- Inform discussions with the School District
- Help school trustees understand parent priorities
- Guide how the DPAC frames questions and feedback during the School District budget cycle.

A Parent Information Evening

For Parents of Children with Disabilities or Diverse Abilities



Thursday, February 19th, 2026
6:00pm-7:30pm

Burnaby Central Secondary School
6011 Deer Lake Pkwy, Burnaby, BC V5G 0A9

To register, scan the QR code.

Welcome to Kindergarten
Information Evening, Thursday,
February 19th, 2026



Is your child with disabilities or diverse abilities starting Kindergarten in the Burnaby School District? Join us for a **parent information session** designed to help families prepare for this exciting transition. Learn about the steps and timelines, discover the supports and services, meet our district inclusive education team. This is a great opportunity to learn, share, and feel supported as you prepare for your child's first year of school.

If you have questions or would like further information, please contact fin.mullins@burnabyschools.ca

www.burnabyschools.ca

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BURNABY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 41