

August 21, 2018

It's hard to believe that another summer holiday is rapidly drawing to an end, however, with the Walmart and Staples commercials dominating the TV and radio, there is no doubt that we will all soon be returning to school. I hope that you have all had a chance to enjoy much time with friends and family to relax and recharge. Over the holiday our staff has been working hard getting the school ready for a smooth opening. Upon returning our students will notice changes that have occurred around the building. With our increasing student numbers and new support programs, we have had to create new classroom and office spaces. Most obvious to students will be the reduction in size of the grade 12 study area as we have created a small classroom in part of the space. Students will also notice the addition of office spaces to part of the library. Our office staff have ensured that administratively we are ready to go; our counselors have reviewed and corrected student schedules while our custodial crew has the building in great shape. We are all looking forward to another great year at Burnsview Secondary.

For students new to Burnsview, I would like to make you aware that Burnsview follows a linear program. This means that students will see all eight of their classes, four per day, for the full year. This is shown in the student schedules, which are available after August 22th and can be viewed through Parent Connect. A link to Parent Connect can be found on our website. While we have made attempts to check all of the student's schedules, please review the schedule that you have received to ensure it is complete. If a course is missing or a course change is required, please contact the office to make an appointment with a counselor.

I would like to remind students and parents that for next year we are including ILT (Individualized Learning Time) into our schedule. This is time that the students will have much greater control of in choosing what learning activities or classes they need to focus on. The students are responsible for signing into a class and being focused on their learning. Please be aware that this is learning time and all students will be required to be working in classes with their teachers. To ensure success of this program, we will be using ILT at the start of the year to teach the skills and processes needed for students to be able to make the best use of this time.

We look forward to meeting our new Grade 8 class – the class of 2023 – and to working with our returning students as we anticipate another exciting and successful year for the Burnsview community. We'll be holding grade assemblies during the second week of school to provide information to all students about the coming school year.

Leading up to the summer and also over the summer, we have experienced a few changes to our teaching staff. Please join me in welcoming:

Ms. S. Bissonnette joins us and will be teaching French (FSL) classes.

Ms. N. Dandiwal joins us and will be teaching Social Studies, Career Education and Family Studies.

Ms. J. Fehlauer returns again to Burnsview and will be teaching Textiles.

Ms. A. Gill joins us from Delview and will be teaching English.

Schools open for students to return to classes on Tuesday September 4th. Information regarding opening day activities is available on our website. Also, on the website is information about school supplies, locks and lockers, course fees, pictures and all those other Back-to-School issues you are wondering about. If you have any questions, please give us a call at 604-594-0491 or come to the school office. Our website can be reached at:

<http://bu.deltasd.bc.ca>

As you have been aware, due to severe air-borne allergies we have, in the past, restricted seafood (fish and shellfish) from Burnsview. There has been a change to this situation where one student with this allergy is no longer attending Burnsview and the other student, while still affected by the seafood allergy, is no longer concerned with an air-borne allergy. We are therefore lifting the restriction on seafood. Students are once again able to bring seafood in their lunches. Thank you for your support and understanding as our community has worked to better a dangerous situation.

Mr. D. Younger, Principal