



Parkcrest Elementary School

6055 Halifax Street

Burnaby, B.C. V5B 2P4

Ph: 604-296-9039 Web: parkcrest.burnabyschools.ca

Friday, September 2, 2022

Dear Parkcrest Elementary School Families,

Once again, I hope that families have had a wonderful and rejuvenating Summer Break. We are looking forward to seeing all of our students and their families again in the coming week.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Thanks to the hard work of Unitech Construction management, Francl Architecture, many trades, Burnaby School District Facilities staff, and Parkcrest Elementary School staff, we have wonderful new and renewed buildings to come to school in the 2022-2023 School Year. As mentioned previously, our buildings have been seismically upgraded and many new features have been added to enhance the safety, comfort and educational experience of our students.

Over the past week, seismic project construction staff have been working to finalize projects of this phase in preparation for the return of students. Parkcrest Elementary School staff have also been working to get our school ready for regular school operations. Some of this work is continuing over this long weekend.

While most of the work on this phase will be completed when school opens on Tuesday, there may be some finalizations that will happen in the building after students return. This work will be scheduled around our student's school days and will not disrupt the students' learning. As well, the school is still in the process of moving back into our renewed spaces and will be completing this move outside of our teaching time with the students.

Other parts of the project will continue over the first part of this school year. These parts include continued work on the Gymnasium, Music Room, outside landscaping, some pathways around the school, and our Outdoor Classroom space.

We will continue to update our school community about the progress of this project as it continues.

2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR – START UP

Contacting the School

We have re-established our telephone network and are now able to receive phone calls. You may contact the school at 604-296-9039 (dial "0" to reach the office). You can leave a voice message in the school's general mailbox if you are not able to reach the office.

Alternatively, you can contact our secretary, Maureen Mah, at Maureen.Mah@burnabyschools.ca.

School Staff

We welcome back many of our teachers and some new staff as well. Currently our staff and staff partnerships are as follows:

Adminstrative Staff	
Andrew Lee	Principal
Deanna Sue	Head Teacher
Teaching & Educational Staff	
Jeremy Grundy	Classroom Teacher
Stephanie McDonald	Classroom Teacher
Brenda Montagano/Nelly Gaster	Classroom Teachers
Aristea Andrews	Classroom Teacher
Elizabeth Bovell	Classroom Teacher
Celia Marto	Classroom Teacher
Angela Mak (temporary for Lynda Glavas)	Classroom Teacher
Kayla Drummond (née Hamer-Jackson)	Classroom Teacher
Amanda Ralph	Classroom Teacher
Katie Mar/Stefanie Tataren	Classroom Teachers
Sheila Gourlay	Classroom Teacher
Far Loungsay/Jenny Lai	Classroom Teacher
Deanna Sue	LSS & ILIT Teacher
Emma Hampton	ELL Teacher
Liz Vaesen	Music Teacher
Leslie-Jo Field	Teacher Librarian
Elise Blair	Counsellor
Melissa Philley	Speech Language Pathologist
Ian Cohen	Band Teacher
Educational Assistants	
Natasha Twersky	
Nicole Sanchez	
Susan Lee	
Nadee Rajapakshe	
Helena Heidari	
Edi Desapriya	
Demi Fu	
Support Staff	
Maureen Mah	Secretary
Teri Jang	Office Support Clerk
Jamie Harsch	Custodian
Ramher Ramos	Evening Custodian

Opening Week (Tuesday, September 6 - Friday, September 9)

Tuesday, September 6 th	<u>Opening Day</u> Students attend from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.	
Wednesday, September 7 th – Friday, September 9 th	<p>All students attend from 9:00 a.m. until 3:02 p.m.</p> <p><u>Exceptions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • new Kindergarten students (see below) • students who may be on an adapted schedule in consultation with the school <p><u>Reminder:</u> Students should bring a recess snack, lunch, water bottle, and dress appropriately for outside play during breaks and P.E. (see below)</p> <p><u>Kindergarten students</u> will attend according to their <i>Kindergarten Gradual Entry Schedule</i> (sent previously)</p>	<p><u>Temporary Classrooms</u></p> <p>Students will attend temporary classrooms throughout this first week and until this year’s School Organization is approved by the Burnaby School District.</p> <p>Please see additional information about the students’ temporary classrooms below.</p>

Opening Week Classroom Assignments

Returning Students

To help students adjust back to the school year, returning students have been placed with their previous year’s teachers and classmates when possible. New teachers have been placed with some students in cases where teachers have not return to our schools. As well, last year’s Kindergarten classes have been placed with other teachers as our Kindergarten teachers are intaking our 2022-2023 Kindergarten students.

Students New to Parkcrest Elementary

New students will be welcomed at the Main Office Entrance on the first day of school (9:00 a.m.). From there they will be assigned to join a temporary class for the remainder of the week. New student can be picked up at the Main Office Entrance at the end (10:00 a.m.) of the first day of school.

Please see the detailed list of Temporary Classroom Assignments Below

Last Year’s Teacher	Temporary Classroom Assignment Teacher	Temporary Classroom/Learning Space
Mr Grundy & Mrs McDonald	Mr Grundy & Mrs McDonald	Room 206 (New North Wing)
Mrs Montagano & Mrs Gaster	Mrs Montagano & Mrs Gaster	Room 208 (New North Wing)
Ms Boroumand	Mrs Bovell	Room 210 (New North Wing)
Mrs Andrews	Mrs Andrews	Room 209 (New North Wing)
Mrs Marto	Mrs Marto	Room 107 (South Wing)
Mrs Mak	Mrs Mak	Room 106 (South Wing)
Mrs Hamer-Jackson	Mrs Hamer Jackson	Room 109 (South Wing)
Mrs Sue & Mrs Paul	Mrs Ralph	Room 108 (South Wing)
Mrs Mar & Mrs Tataren	Mrs Mar & Tataren	Room 110 (South Wing)
Mrs Lefley-Evans	Ms Sue & Mrs Hampton	Library (New NorthWing)
Mrs Loungsay & Mrs Lai	Ms Vaesen	Room 207 (New North Wing)
New Students	Meet at the Main Office Doors - Classrooms will be assigned	

New Kindergarten Students (as per <i>Kindergarten Gradual Entry Schedule</i>)	Mrs Gourlay Mrs Loungsay & Mrs Lai	Room 111A Room 111B
---	---------------------------------------	------------------------

Access Routes & Temporary Class Entrance and Line-Up Locations

The construction project will ultimately provide greater safety and accessibility into Parkcrest Elementary School. As construction proceeds, however, there may be changing access routes and access points to the school. We will continue to update our community on changes that may occur.

Please see the maps of ***Opening Week Access Routes & Opening Week Entrance/Line Up and Classroom Locations*** that were included as separate attachments to this email. We have separated the two maps to increase the clarity of the information shared, please use the information in coordination with each other.

Please note the following:

- **NO ENTRY INTO STAFF PARKING LOT**
 - For the safety of students and their families, **no students or their family members should be entering or leaving the parking lot and driveways, or using the stairs in front of the office or in the middle of the parking lot.** The parking lot and the stairs leading from them are for staff use only.
 - Access from Halifax Street - Use the pathways on the west and east sides of the school
 - West side has a temporary fence lined pathway on the school driveway
 - East side has a paved pathway beside the driveway that leads up to the front undercover area
- **CURRENTLY, NO DIRECT PATHWAY FROM WINCH STREET TO THE TOP OF THE NORTH WING**
 - Access from Winch Street and Sherban Court is through Parkcrest Park on the west side of the school.

Attendance For The First Week (And Procedures For The Rest Of The Year)

Attendance during the first week of school is mandatory. Confirming our student enrolment helps us form our School Organization in preparation for the school year.

If a student is unable to attend, please be sure to report the student's absence using the "Report A Student's Absence" mailbox.

Reporting Student Absence Procedure

1. Call the school – 604-296-9039
2. Dial 3 to access the "Report Student Absence" mailbox
3. Leaving a detailed message including:
 - a. Name of student
 - b. Division and teacher's name
 - c. Duration of absence if known

Remember:

- To call each day your child is away or inform us of the full duration of the absence. Update the school as necessary.
- To speak clearly
- Leaving the reason your child is absent is optional but may be helpful as we try to keep our community healthy. Please know that your child's health information is kept private.
- Use the "Report Student Absence" phone voicemail as the official way to report absences. Emails about absences to teachers or the school secretary may not be processed due to various situations (e.g. staff absences).

PREPARING FOR SCHOOL

Just a few reminders to prepare your children for school.

Snacks, Lunches, and Water Bottle

- Remember to prepare a health snack and lunch for your child
- Ensure that your child is able to open the containers and packaging that you provide. For example, thermo containers will often 'vacuum seal' closed once the food inside cools and be very difficult to open.
- Provide the necessary utensils for the food you provide
- Water is the best hydrating drink. Students should bring a refillable water bottle to school. The school has water bottle fillers if students need a refill.

Dress and Prepare for the Weather

- Students will go out for all breaks (and P.E. while the gym is closed) during the school day. Please ensure that children are properly prepared and bring clothes appropriate for the weather. This could include proper jackets or coat for the season, pants (consider waterproof or water resistant pants), shoes or boots, sunhats or toques, gloves, sunscreen, and umbrellas.
- Properly prepared students can have lots of fun and be very comfortable in all types of weather.

All families can have difficult moments, times, and situations. If your family is having difficulty providing food or proper clothing for your child, please let the school know to see what supports might be available. You can let your child's teacher know or contact the office directly.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Burnaby School District has recently sent information from the Fraser Health Authority on current Covid-19 Health and Safety Guidelines and Practices. This and additional information can also be found on the Burnaby School District website at [COVID-19: Sharing Clear and Current Information - Burnaby Schools - School District 41, Burnaby, BC, Canada](#).

As always, for the health of our school community, **please keep your children home if they are not feeling well. This also includes illnesses and symptoms not consistent with Covid-19.**

Students must pass the Daily Health Check in order to attend school. The Daily Health Check can be found [Health Check & Health Awareness - Burnaby Schools - School District 41, Burnaby, BC, Canada](#)

At Parkcrest Elementary School, we will be following the guidelines and classes will continue to employ strategies that encourage and promote health and wellness.

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

Did you know that every parent of a student at Parkcrest Elementary School is part of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC works with the school to provide enrichment and depth to many, many aspects of our students' lives. Each year many dedicated parents work with, at, and around the school to provide richness to the learning of our students. And now the PAC needs you.

The first PAC Meeting of the year is scheduled for Monday, September 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the new Parkcrest Elementary School Library. All parents are welcome. More details to come.

Thank you for your attention to many topics in this email. We are looking forward to having your children back with us soon. There is a year of exciting learning ahead of us.

Sincerely,

Andrew Lee
Principal
Parkcrest Elementary School