

Burnaby Central Secondary Virtual Open House, 2022

Frequently Asked Questions

How can my child be successful in school?

- Send your child to school ready to learn.
 - It is important that your child has access to a nutritious breakfast/lunch and snacks throughout the day to help fuel the body and mind.
 - It is also important that your child has the right amount of sleep to make sure they are alert and ready to learn. This is typically between 9 and 9 1/2 hours of sleep per night.
 - Provide your child the necessary tools to learn (pencils, paper, binder, calculator, etc.)
- Teach your child organizational skills, including how to use a planner (hard copy or digital), organize their class materials, and effective time management.
- Support homework expectations and make sure your child knows that you view their learning as a priority.
- Discuss the importance of being able to advocate for their own needs. Encourage your child to ask for help or clarification as needed.
- While a child may need to be away from school from time to time, it is important that your child attends regularly and arrives to school on time.
- Make time to talk to your child about school, what they are learning, what they are proud of, excited about, or having difficulty with. Be a good listener to help be informed and supportive about your child's learning experiences.


What Social Studies courses are offered at Burnaby Central?

The Socials courses offered at Burnaby Central can be found on the Burnaby Central website under the Course Selection tab. Here you will find a list of the courses, including a brief explanation of what each course entails.

How are students graded?

As per the recent assessment order from the Ministry of Education, students Socials 8 and 9 will be assessed using the Ministry Proficiency Scale model. Assessments will continue to be rigorous and based on learning standards evaluating student achievement, Core Competencies, essential learning, literacy, and numeracy. Students in Socials 8 and 9 will also be given a letter grade in accordance with current Provincial reporting practices.

The Proficiency Scale is intended to reflect student achievement in relation to widely held grade level standards.

PROFICIENCY SCALE					
	EMERGING		DEVELOPING		PROFICIENT
	The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning outcome.		The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning outcome.		The student demonstrates a thorough/complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.
	The student demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.				
	C- Minimally Acceptable Performance		C Satisfactory Performance	C+ Good Performance	B Very Good Performance
I – In Progress or Incomplete The student has not yet demonstrated the minimum understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning outcome.					

Students in Grades 10, 11, and 12 will be given a letter grade and percentage in accordance with the current Provincial reporting practices.

Work Habit marks will reflect a student’s ability to demonstrate responsibility, cooperation, self-regulation, and classroom citizenship.

What does the Social Studies Curriculum entail?

The Core Competencies are sets of intellectual, personal, social and emotional proficiencies that all students need in order to engage in deep, lifelong learning, and to be able to experience success in life beyond the school. Along with literacy and numeracy foundations, they are central to British Columbia’s K-12 curriculum and assessment system. BC has identified three Core Competencies – **Communication, Thinking** and **Personal and Social Competency** as essential for all learners. Further information around the Core Competencies can be found here:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>

Social Studies 8 and 9 will be following a concept-based, competency driven approach to learning.

Concept-based, competency-driven curriculum

British Columbia’s redesigned curriculum brings together two features: a **concept-based** (knowledge) approach to learning and a focus on the development of **competencies** (skills), to foster deeper, more transferable learning. These approaches complement each other because of their common focus on active engagement of students. Deeper learning is better achieved through “doing” than

through passive listening or reading. Similarly, both concept-based learning and the development of competencies engage students in authentic tasks that connect learning to the real world.

Three key areas form the foundation of the framework:

1. **KNOW** – the content that students learn
2. **DO** – the curricular competencies (the skills, strategies, and processes that students develop over time)
3. **UNDERSTAND** – the ‘BIG IDEAS’ and concepts that students learn and understand

How do I decide which senior Social Studies course/s to take?

The Social Studies Department offers a wide variety of senior elective courses for students to select from to meet their graduation requirements. The wide range of topics allows for every student to find at least one course that interests them. Students and families can learn more about what is being offered at Burnaby Central by viewing the Social Studies Course Descriptions located under the Course Selection tab of the Burnaby Central school website. If students or families have questions about the course being offered, they may connect with any of the Socials teachers or their school counsellor.

How can I keep up with my child’s courses/schoolwork?

It is important to ensure that students have a record of important dates such as when assignments are due and test/quiz days. A student may choose to use a planner or a digital calendar to record such dates. Additionally, by regularly checking your child’s binder and planner, you will be able to see what your child has been learning and assigned by their teacher

At this time, all course materials (handouts/assignments) can be accessed via Microsoft Teams and/or OneNote. You may also contact your child’s teacher for assistance with online resources.

We are going on vacation; how can my child keep up with their studies?

Contact the classroom teacher for the best course of action. It is important for students to keep up with their studies whilst away so that they do not fall behind in the classroom. Whether that is by keeping up with the readings, submitting assignments digitally, or emailing the classroom teacher, we want to ensure that the student is obtaining the best learning experience possible.

How can I contact my child’s teacher?

Teachers can be reached by calling the school or sending an email. You will find a list of Burnaby Central teachers and their work emails by accessing the Burnaby Central Staff Directory on the school website.

