



Byrne Creek Community School

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August 23, 2024

Welcome Grads of 2029!

We are looking forward to having you join our school community. Since 2005 Byrne Creek has excelled in providing our students first class academic, athletic, fine arts, and leadership programs. We have been recognized internationally for our dedication to our students and we look forward to continuing this tradition with you.

We are hoping you will take full advantage of the many opportunities this school has to offer. During the first few weeks, you will have an opportunity to learn about our teams, clubs, committees, community partnerships, and programs. To make your high school experience the best it can be I highly encourage you to get involved, try new things, and immerse yourself in the Byrne Creek experience.

We hope you are looking forward to the start of Grade 8.

A significant focus at Byrne Creek this year will be on cell phone usage. There is lots of recent evidence that shows that student cell phone use has negatively impacted student learning.

We want to ensure that students can develop into their full potential intellectually, socially, and emotionally.

The Burnaby School District has updated its Code of Conduct to state that students must have their cell phones out of site (e.g. in their bags, in their lockers) and on silent mode or turned off during instructional time (i.e. class time) unless teacher permission has been granted.

Students are never ever allowed to be on their phones during class time for non-educational reasons, including on social media. Students are allowed to be on their cell phones before and after school and at lunch and break.

Students who fail to comply with this Code of Conduct expectation will meet with their respective school-based administrator and may face further and escalating disciplinary consequences.

At Byrne, this year, we will explore strategies to support students to stay off their cell phones, except when necessary, and limit their social media activity.

We would like to ask for your help and support with this by having conversations with your child(ren) before the school-year begins emphasizing that this change is in their best interest.

If you would like to learn more about the impact of cell phone use and social media use on young people, please consider reading, *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt:
<https://www.anxiousgeneration.com/>

Here are some things you can do to get ready for the school year:

Choose a locker for the year using the online locker system:

1. [LockerGM](#) will open on Thursday, August 29th. Login using your student number as the user id and your date of birth, in yyyy-mm-dd format, for the password. Make note of your locker number and your combination for the first day!
2. Gather the following school supplies. The quantities below will be enough to get you started.
 - One binder (1.5-2 inch)
 - Five dividers
 - One package of lined, 3-hole punched paper
 - A pencil case (consider one that can go in your binder)
 - 5 pencils
 - 3-5 pens (blue or black)
 - One eraser
 - One highlighter

Consider also whether you will use a **paper agenda/planner**. Inexpensive versions are available. Some students will prefer to use a binder page or a phone app to track their homework instead. We will discuss options during the first week of classes!

As you meet your teachers, they may ask for other supplies related to a particular class or subject. You can collect these extra items after the first week.

3. Get familiar with the school schedule, and figure out your timing so that you can arrive at school on time.

2024-2025 BELL SCHEDULE

| M-Th times | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Fri times |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| 7:22-8:37 | X-Block | | | | | 7:22-8:37 |
| 8:37-9:05 | Flexible Student Support Time (FLEX) | | | | | 8:37-9:25 |
| 9:05-10:20 | Period 1 | Period 1 | Period 1 | Period 1 | Period 1 | 9:25-10:35 |
| 10:20-10:35 | Break | | | | | 10:35-10:50 |
| 10:35-11:50 | Period 2 | Period 2 | Period 2 | Period 2 | Period 2 | 10:50-12:00 |
| 11:50-12:35 | Lunch | | | | | 12:00-12:45 |
| 12:35-1:45 | Period 3 | Period 3 | Period 3 | Period 3 | Period 3 | 12:45-1:50 |
| 1:50-3:00 | Period 4 | Period 4 | Period 4 | Period 4 | Period 4 | 1:55-3:00 |
| 3:05-4:30 | Y-Block | | | | | 3:05-4:30 |

Tuesday, 3rd September (9:45-11:30 am)

1. Bring something to write with, something to write on.
2. **Meet in the atrium at 9:45 am for a brief assembly.**
3. Pick up your timetable (class schedule) from leadership students in the atrium. Your period 1 class will be highlighted - if you have an incomplete timetable please see your counsellor.
4. Leadership students will take you on a tour of the building.

5. Your group will then

- meet your Period 1 teacher for homeroom updates.
- get a Mini Handbook.
- get a B.A.R.C. permission form.
- access Office 365, join the SD41 wi-fi network, and set up your MyEd BC login.
- find/open the locker you chose.
- locate your semester 1 classrooms.

Wednesday, 4th September

- 8:37 am There will be a **mandatory** grade 8 assembly in the large gym during flex time.
- Classes start at 9:05. Be in your Period 1 class before the bell rings!
- Bring your school supplies.
- **It's school photo day!** What will you wear?

Thursday, 5th September

- 8:37 am mandatory flex time in the Library for **grade 8s with last name A - L**
- Regular schedule today
- Today you can **pay your school fees.**
- Payment can be made by cheque payable to Byrne Creek Community School or online at <https://burnaby.schoolcashonline.com/>
 - Student Activity Fee - \$25.00 (Supports intramurals, school teams, clubs, and many other events for students).
 - Yearbook (optional) - \$45.00 if purchased before February 1st. After Feb. 1st, \$55.
 - Certain classes may have fees for optional activities - collected at a later date.

Friday, 6th September

- 8:37 am mandatory flex time in the Library for **grade 8s with last name M - Z**

If your plans have changed and you will not be attending Byrne Creek Community School, please call the school at 604-296-6885 to let us know.

We look forward to meeting you. Enjoy the rest of your summer vacation.

Yours truly,

Laurent Scaligine

Mr. Laurent Scaligine
Vice Principal