

Greater Vancouver, BC Canada

# Burnaby School District



Academic Success, Canadian Experience



**ST Star Secondary Award winner  
2020/21 and 2022**



[studyinburnaby.ca](https://studyinburnaby.ca)





# Great Futures Begin Here



## ► Why Students Choose Burnaby

- Great location – urban environment, lots of green space, close to downtown Vancouver, beaches and ocean, ski mountains
- Easy access to public transportation
- Excellent academic reputation – one of the largest Advanced Placement (AP) Programs in Canada, including two schools offering the elite AP Capstone Diploma Program
- Choice of schools – 41 elementary schools (K - Gr 7) and 8 secondary schools (Gr 8 – 12)
- A wide variety of school courses – Visual and Performing Arts, IT Academies, Sports, Languages, and more
- Support for international students both in school and out
- Modern facilities and state of the art technology
- Extensive extracurricular activities – school clubs, excursions, community sports and recreation facilities



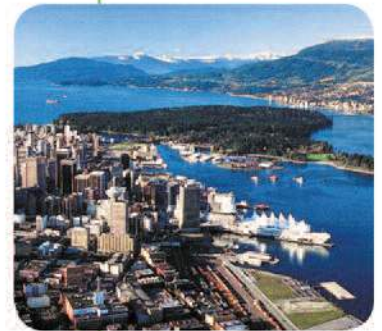
# The Perfect Location



► The City of Burnaby is located in the centre of Greater Vancouver, with safe, family-oriented neighbourhoods, and a strong sense of community.

## Burnaby is:

- Beautifully green, within minutes of local mountains, the ocean, sparkling lakes and lush parks
- Easy and convenient public transit throughout Burnaby and the surrounding areas
- 20 to 30 minutes by Skytrain to downtown Vancouver
- Filled with services such as libraries and tutoring academies, as well as entertainment choices such as shopping malls and movie theatres
- Community and sports centres with swimming pools, tennis and basketball courts, ice rinks, gymnasiums, and art, dance, and music facilities
- Home to two highly ranked post-secondary institutions: Simon Fraser University and British Columbia Institute of Technology; with the University of British Columbia only a 30-minute drive away
- Year-round community festivals and cultural events





# Our Academic Success



► Burnaby School District has 41 elementary schools (for ages 5-12) and 8 high schools (for ages 13-18). All schools are certified by the British Columbia Ministry of Education.

## Academic Strengths:

- Burnaby School District has one of the largest Advanced Placement (AP) programs in Canada
- Two Burnaby schools have been selected to offer the prestigious AP Capstone Diploma
- High number of scholarships awarded for post-secondary studies
- Support for international students progressing to university
- Many students have been accepted into top universities i.e. University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, McGill University, MIT, Princeton, Harvard, etc.
- Wide range of exciting elective courses such as Law, Business, Robotics, Animation, Psychology, Philosophy, Social Justice, Music, Dance, Woodwork, Cooking, and many more







► Burnaby Schools have the finest in modern facilities and technology.

**Facilities in every secondary school:**

- MAC and PC computer labs
- Science labs
- Large library
- Dance and Drama studios
- Art studios
- Music rooms
- 2 gymnasiums
- Weight training room
- Outdoor playing fields
- Robotics lab
- Cooking, and Textile labs
- Industrial technology labs
- Cafeteria





## Alpha Secondary

**930 Alpha Avenue | Population:** 1,100 students

**Start Dates:** September, February, (semester school)

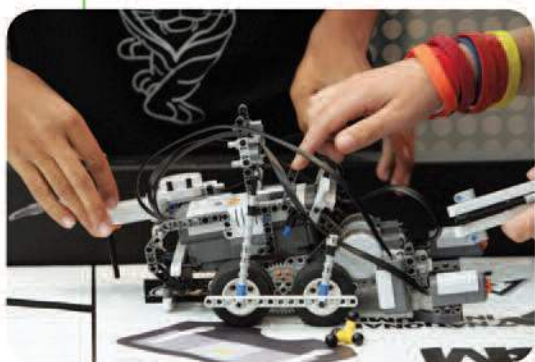
**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses**

### Unique Courses/Programs:

Robotics Certificate Program, French Immersion, Theatre Company, Dance Company

### Highlights:

- Alpha provides international students with a caring and supportive environment where it is easy to make friends and seek added assistance from teachers
- A strong academic program with a range of Advanced Placement courses for high-achieving students
- University-level Super Lab for Science
- Alpha is proud of its award-winning Robotics Team
- Alpha offers a specialized Theatre Company as well as a Dance Company for qualified students
- An extensive Visual and Performing Arts Program which includes Drama, Instrumental and Choral Music, Dance, Ceramics & Sculpture, Design, Drawing & Painting, and Digital Media
- Alpha BETA program for advanced grade 8-10 students
- Past international students have been accepted at: University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, University of Alberta, University of Victoria, University of Waterloo



## Burnaby Central Secondary

**6011 Deer Lake Parkway | Population:** 1,400 students

**Start Dates:** September, February, (semester school)

**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses**

### Unique Courses/Programs:

Choir Performance, Culinary Arts Certification

### Highlights:

- University-level Super Lab for Science
- Award-winning Visual and Performing Arts program includes a wide selection of courses, including Photography, Jazz Band, Choir, Instrumental Music, Dance, Script Writing, Directing and more
- Renowned for its sports programming, Burnaby Central has won more provincial sports championships than any other British Columbia school. Over 30 different sports teams run every year
- Its active student body is involved in a wide variety of extracurricular services and volunteer activities
- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certified building
- Past international students accepted into University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, Western, York University, Concordia, Carleton, McMaster, Queens, MIT, Boston University, University of Miami, Art Institute of Vancouver







## Byrne Creek Secondary

7777 18th Street | Population: 1,050 students

Start Dates: September, February, (semester school)

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

### Unique Courses/Programs:

Visual and Performing Arts Certificate Program, Media Arts Industry Training, Business and Information Technology, Robotics, Performing Dance Company

### Highlights:

- Consistently ranked #1 for student satisfaction by our international students
- Known for its outstanding Visual and Performing Arts Program which includes Media Arts, Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Arts
- Extensive and highly renowned Dance Program – Choreography, Performance Company, all genres of dance
- Strong musical theatre productions
- Features the latest in technology, including six computer labs, a Science Super Lab, and a computerized library
- A wide variety of school sports teams and after-school clubs
- Modern facilities including the Centre for Dialogue, which allows students to participate in international presentations and global discussions
- Past international students have been accepted into: University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, Western, University of Alberta, Waterloo, University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom), University of West London (United Kingdom)



## Burnaby Mountain Secondary

8800 Eastlake Drive | Population: 1,450 students

Start Dates: September, February, (semester school)

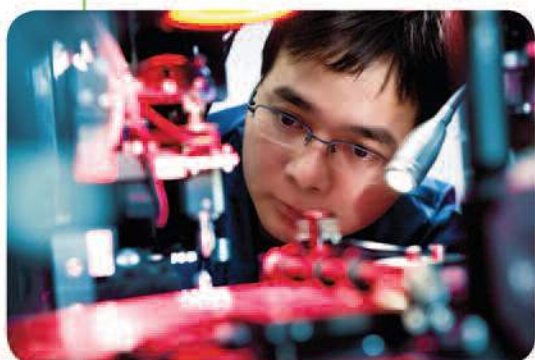
Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

### Unique Courses/Programs:

Leadership, Social Justice, Hospitality Management, Environmental Studies, Dance, Simon Fraser University Soccer Academy

### Highlights:

- Its students excel in district, provincial and national competitions in Math, Media Arts, Drama, Writing, Music, Dance, Debate, and Sports
- The school boasts a vibrant student community with over 30 sports teams and a high participation rate in student-led councils and after-school clubs such as Arts Club, Anime, Dance Team, Skiing/Snowboarding and Golf
- Extensive Visual and Performing Arts Program including: Choir, Vocal Jazz, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, Dance, Drama/Theatre Courses and Productions, Directing & Script Writing
- Soccer Program combines professional training by Simon Fraser University coaches with a modified academic program
- Past International students have been accepted into many different universities including: University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, McGill, York University, Simon Fraser University, University of Victoria







## Burnaby North Secondary

**751 Hammarckjold Drive | Population:** 1,800 students

**Start Dates:** September; limited space for February (linear school)

**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:** AP Capstone Diploma

### Unique Courses/Programs:

Financial Accounting, String Orchestra, Philosophy, Robotics, Film & Broadcast, Arts Enrichment Program, Ice Hockey Academy, AP Capstone Diploma, Simon Fraser University Soccer Academy

### Highlights:

- Brand new school opening in 2023
- Burnaby North offers one of the largest Advanced Placement (AP) programs in all of Canada, with a strong record of excellent exam results
- One of very few schools in Canada selected to offer the prestigious Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma
- The school hosts one of British Columbia's largest Visual and Performing Arts Programs including Digital Sound Recording, Photojournalism and Concert Choir
- One of very few Canadian schools with a 75-piece Marching Band
- 3D Modelling and Animation
- The Burnaby North Ice Hockey Academy is a skills development program for both girls and boys where students can attend school as well as hone their hockey skills
- Past international students accepted into: University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, Waterloo, Western, York University, Carleton, McGill, Queens, Princeton, University of California at Los Angeles, Boston College, London University (United Kingdom), University of Warwick (United Kingdom)



## Burnaby South Secondary

**5455 Rumble Street | Population:** 1,850 students

**Start Dates:** September; limited space for February (linear school)

**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:** AP Capstone Diploma

### Unique Courses/Programs:

Business, Symphony Orchestra, 3D Art & Design, TV Production, Baking and Catering, Fitness Trainer Certificate Program

### Highlights:

- Burnaby South offers one of the largest Advanced Placement programs in Burnaby and is only one of very few schools in Canada selected to offer the prestigious Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma
- The school offers an excellent Business Education Program, including courses in Economics, Entrepreneurship, Marketing and Tourism
- CISCO Networking Academy
- An extensive range of Visual and Performing Arts courses, including Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Band, Choir and Jazz Choir
- Burnaby South houses superb facilities, including the Michael J. Fox Theatre, a fully-equipped television production studio and a professional recording studio
- Past international students have been accepted into: University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, McGill, York University, University of Alberta, Simon Fraser University, University of Washington, Saxion (Netherlands), University of Oxford (United Kingdom)







## Cariboo Hill Secondary

**8580 16th Avenue | Population:** 650 students

**Start Dates:** September; limited space for February (linear school)

**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses**

### Unique Courses/Programs:

Pre-Engineering Program, Law, Drafting, French Immersion, Student Government, Robotics, IT Academies (Gaming, Cybersecurity, MOS); Volleyball Academy

### Highlights:

- Unique Engineering Foundation Program that provides excellent preparation for students interested in studying Engineering at the post-secondary level. Core classes in the program are designed to meet the entrance requirements for Engineering programs at University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and British Columbia Institute of Technology
- As a smaller school, Cariboo Hill provides international students with a family-like environment, making it easy for students to seek friends and assistance from teachers
- A high percentage of students are awarded post-secondary scholarships
- Strong Visual and Performing Arts Program includes courses such as Film Studies, Photography, Choir, Dance, Acting, Theatre Production, Concert Band and Jazz Band
- A wide range of technology-related education programs, including Drafting, Metalwork and Woodworking
- Past international students have been accepted into: University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, University of Victoria, Emily Carr Art University



## Moscrop Secondary

**4433 Moscrop Street | Population:** 1,400 students

**Start Dates:** September; limited space for February (linear school)

**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses**

### Unique Courses/Programs:

Robotics, Psychology, BCIT Health Sciences Certificate, Dance, Leadership, Mentorship

### Highlights:

- Moscrop is well recognized for its high academic standards and achievements
- Scholarships offered to Moscrop graduates typically total over \$1.5 million, well above the British Columbia school average
- The school houses excellent facilities, including a Science Super Lab, extensive computer laboratories, and first-rate dance and music studios
- The strong Visual and Performing Arts Program includes courses in Music, Painting, Drawing and Ceramics, as well as Dance, Directing and Script Writing
- The school enjoys a high participation rate in after-school clubs and teams, such as Volleyball, Skiing/Snowboarding, Basketball, Badminton, Soccer, Gymnastics, Golf and Rugby
- Past international students have been accepted into: University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, University of Toronto, McGill, Waterloo, University Victoria, Emily Carr Art University, University College of London (United Kingdom)





# International Student Support



► International students studying abroad, especially minors, have a unique set of needs. The support available to students is one of the key deciding factors for parents and students in choosing where to go. Students often require help adjusting to life in a new country, and as most of our Burnaby international students are here without their parents and family, they need and deserve extra special care and attention. By providing a wide range of support services for Burnaby students, our students are more likely to succeed in their program here.

## Our International Secondary Student Support Program features:

- An extensive one-week orientation including a school tour, course selection, information sessions and a local excursion
- Free KeepMeSafe app for 24/7 counselling services
- Post-secondary information events
- IELTS and SAT Preparation courses
- Free peer tutoring after school
- Regular excursions to exciting tourist destinations







### Our support personnel comprises:

- A pool of multilingual staff in the International Education Office
- **Vice Principal of International** in each school. This senior administrator's role is to oversee the international students and the program at his/her respective school
- **International Student Assistant (ISA)** in every secondary school. This person monitors the well-being of the student, attendance and academic progress and is a resource for the student in many aspects of the program and school life
- **Homestay Coordinator** for all Burnaby-requested homestays. Students can contact the Coordinator about any Langara Homestay issue 24/7
- **School Counsellors** at every school who work with students in planning their timetable, course changes, academic counselling and advice, personal counselling, and assistance in planning for and applying to post-secondary institutions





# Offering A True Canadian Experience



► From hockey and mountain biking to canoeing, chess or choir, it's easy to get involved in Burnaby, and have a true Canadian experience. Burnaby schools, as well as the International Office, offer an excursion program throughout the year to destinations in British Columbia and beyond. Students can take advantage of many school-based clubs, sports and extracurricular activities.

## Examples of School Clubs

- Chess
- Choir
- Debating
- Math
- Sports
- Gymnastics
- United Nations

## Examples of After School Activities

- Volunteering
- Dance performance
- Intramural sports
- Peer tutoring
- Music performance
- Theatre
- Leadership

## Examples of Int'l Student Excursions

- Rocky Mountain Tour
- Skiing/Snowboarding
- Victoria Sightseeing
- Whale Watching

## Examples of School Based Excursions

- Vancouver Aquarium
- Stanley Park
- Ice Skating
- Snowshoeing
- Lazer Tag
- Bowling







► School sports in British Columbia schools are played in specific seasons. For example:

#### Fall/Winter

- Volleyball, boys' soccer, rugby, X-country running, swimming, wrestling, girls' field hockey

#### Winter

- Basketball, table tennis, gymnastics, skiing/snowboarding

#### Spring

- Badminton, girls' soccer, athletics, tennis, volleyball, golf, rugby, ultimate frisbee, ball hockey, netball

**Sport Academies – Burnaby has 3 sports academies where students combine a modified high school program with sports skills development training. A separate application form is required and extra fees are charged.**

- Soccer – Burnaby Mountain, Burnaby North
- Ice Hockey – Burnaby North
- Volleyball (regular & elite streams) – Cariboo Hill

**Elite Swimming Program with Simon Fraser Aquatics (SFA) for qualified students**





# Homestay Accommodation

► Students have the added opportunity to live with a Canadian family. Homestay accommodation includes 3 meals a day, a private bedroom and a maximum of 2 international students per home.

All of Burnaby's host families are Canadian residents, speak English and have experience hosting students.

Students can specify on the homestay application form as to the kind of family they would like to live with. This information is then used to match the student to the best available family.

Like most public school districts in Canada, Burnaby does not offer dormitory residences.

**What are some of the benefits of homestay accommodation versus a dormitory residence?**

- Homestay offers a personalized, stable and secure environment for younger learners, as dormitory residences typically have 1 adult caring for a much larger group of students. In Burnaby, only two international students are placed per family
- Homestays allow students to completely immerse themselves in Canadian culture. The immersion experience can help students adjust to school life and achieve success faster. Most students in a residence need to actively seek out their own cultural experiences as they are usually surrounded by other international students rather than local Canadians, thereby slowing their adjustment to life in Canada and the Canadian school system
- Students in a homestay can practise their English with the host family. In a residence it's too easy to stick with students from one's own country/ culture and speak one's native language
- Homestay families offer students home cooked food whereas dormitories usually only offer cafeteria food
- Students in Burnaby homestays have their own private bedroom and desk as opposed to having to share a bedroom and study area with other students in a residence
- Homestay families are carefully selected to fit the preferences of the student versus "one-size-fits-all" in a residence





# What Our Students Say:



▶ I chose Burnaby because it has the biggest AP program in Canada. I am currently taking 5 AP classes. AP classes are challenging but this drives me to academic success and helps me prepare for life at the university level. What I like most about my school is the competitive academic environment. Students in my school hold themselves to very high standards. You can see this not only in their academic performance but also in other aspects of school life like sports teams. I would recommend Burnaby to other students because it offers a safe community, a good environment to learn English and it pushes you to achieve a lot more. **Tong Wang - China**



▶ Studying in Burnaby has been a fulfilling experience for me, not only academically but also personally. The opportunities that Burnaby schools offer are vast compared to the ones in Mexico. Students have a wide variety of subjects to choose from. Teachers are very understanding and knowledgeable. Schools also offer many activities for students to engage in so that it would be hard not to find something to your liking. **Winnie Chiu Castillo - Mexico**



▶ I learned a lot of valuable things while studying in Burnaby, but in particular was Robotics. It was incredible. I even won a mechatronics award. Overall it was a superb experience which moved me forward and opened doors to many opportunities. However, school was only part of the experience. I made a bunch of new friends, friendships that will last a lifetime. I did a lot with my host family, particularly with my 2 host brothers. I explored the Canadian nature, and most importantly learned English. I am glad I went to Burnaby. I have so many great memories from what I did there. **Jacob Eim - Czech Republic**



▶ I chose Burnaby as it has a high quality of education, the schools have many interesting facilities and courses, and transportation around Burnaby, to Vancouver and to the ocean and mountains is easy. I loved the science classes, the many sports you could join, and the after school clubs and leadership opportunities that were available. The nature is incredible. This experience made me more mature and independent, and I discovered many things I couldn't do before. **Natalia Monterrubio - Spain**



▶ Schools in Burnaby have very good teachers. Classes are more focussed on individuals than the general which makes for effective learning. Also, there is a high quality of after school activities, facilities and equipment. Each of the Burnaby schools is a little different and has its own vibe. Burnaby is a nice part of the Greater Vancouver area with beautiful sights and open-minded people. It is quite multicultural and it is easy to make friends, which maximizes the study abroad experience. This year was the best year of my life. **Johannes Racherbaeumer - Germany**



▶ The education system here is, I believe, one of the best in the world. The schools are modern. You will learn a different way of studying which I felt was more effective and interesting for me. I was able to graduate. The schools are modern and have a vast diversity which fascinated me. This experience will open your eyes, give you a new perspective on the world, and help you grow as a person. Burnaby is a safe city, the public transit system is efficient, and people are kind and helpful. I recommend everyone to have this experience and to live the Canadian life! **Francesca Novello - Italy**



▶ The quality of public schools in Burnaby is as good as or better than private schools in Turkey. I did the subjects I needed to graduate as well as chose subjects that I wanted to study. This allowed me to focus on what I really wanted to do. Your high school years will be enjoyable here. You will make a lot of valuable memories and you will grow personally. Living in Burnaby opened my eyes on how diverse a population we are, and I learned the importance of this. Coming here was the best experience of my life. Every moment I spent here was precious. I will continue my post-secondary studies in Vancouver. **Deniz Somuncuoglu - Turkey**



▶ The way teachers teach in Burnaby is very clear. While each teacher has a different style, all are helpful. They want to bring out the best in every student. I also gained a lot of experience from doing things with friends and trying new subjects, for example Physical Education and other sports. I will stay here and graduate then go on to post-secondary studies. Burnaby is multicultural with nice people. You will learn a lot here. Remember, travel broadens the mind. **Lily Nguyen - Vietnam**







**For more information • Fees • Dates and Deadlines • Applications • Programs**  
Please visit [studyinburnaby.ca](http://studyinburnaby.ca) | [international@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:international@burnabyschools.ca) | Telephone 604-296-6903