

# THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

5455 Rumble Street  
Burnaby, British Columbia V5J 2B7  
(604) 296-6880, ext. 605009



---

## BCSD January Newsletter

Dear BCSD Families/Guardians,

Happy New Year! As we begin 2026, students are entering the second half of the school year, with only a few months left until June. Time will fly quickly, and the coming months will be busy with learning, assessments, and special events. We appreciate your continued support as we work together to ensure every student has a successful finish to the school year.

### New Staff

Our staff member, Madison Yaworski, is currently on maternal leave, and we are excited to welcome **Brittany Schweeder** to our school community. Brittany will be teaching Learning Support Services (LSS), where she will support students with diverse abilities and learning needs.

We are thrilled to have Brittany join our team and look forward to the support and guidance she will provide to our students on their academic and personal journeys.

It is with sadness that we share that our science teacher, **Mike Kellett**, passed away unexpectedly during the winter break. We extend our deepest condolences to his family and friends during this difficult time.

We are pleased to welcome **Ms. Katherine Liu** as our temporarily science teacher until the end of June. Ms. Liu is a graduate of SFU and brings expertise and passion in science to our school community. She will begin teaching on January 26.

### Assessment Week

During assessment week (**January 19–23**), students will have no regular classes. Instead, they will participate in a variety of activities, field trip, attend guest speaker sessions, and have flex time to catch up on work. These experiences help support student growth and provide opportunities for meaningful learning outside the regular classroom. At the same time, Grade 10 and 12 students completed the Provincial Literacy and Numeracy Assessments, which are required by the Ministry of Education to support student learning and monitor progress. If your child was unable to complete the assessment, another opportunity will be available in April.

**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF**

5455 Rumble Street  
Burnaby, British Columbia V5J 2B7  
(604) 296-6880, ext. 605009

**Academic Communication Equity BC (ACE-BC)**

ACE-BC is excited to announce the launch of its Peer Support Program, starting January 29, 2026, with monthly sessions.

This program is designed to help students:

- Connect with peers who share similar experiences
- Learn strategies to make classrooms, extracurricular activities, and future workplaces more accessible
- Build communication and leadership skills

We encourage families to support their students in joining this valuable opportunity.

**Register now** or for more information, email [PeerSupport@ace-bc.ca](mailto:PeerSupport@ace-bc.ca) or leave a chat/video message at [www.ace-bc.ca](http://www.ace-bc.ca).

**Parent-Teacher Conference**

You may have seen on the school calendar or in emails that a parent-teacher conference is scheduled for January 29th. Please note that this applies only to Burnaby South Secondary, there will be **no conferences** at BCSD on this day. Therefore, we will have regular classes, no early dismissal on Thursday or Friday, and the dorm and school transportation will continue as usual.

**Here are some important dates for February:**

- **Feb 16** – Family Day (school closed)
- **Feb 27** – Professional Day (school closed)

We encourage families to continue engaging with their children’s learning at home and to reach out to teachers or staff if you have questions or need support. Together, we can help make the last half of the year productive, positive, and fulfilling for all students.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support!

Sincerely,



Cathy Bennett, M.Ed., Ed.S.  
BCSD Principal



Jennifer Zuvic, M.Ed  
BCSD Vice-Principal