



9540 Erickson Drive, Burnaby, B.C. V3J 1M9 Phone: 604-296-9005

**At Cameron Elementary School, where everyone is respected, we believe in taking responsibility for our actions, being diligent in our learning, caring for each other and having fun together.**

## WELCOME

We are pleased and excited to be back after our long lovely summer. The staff of Cameron would like to wish everyone in our school community a warm welcome to the new school year.



We are eager to work with you to make this an exciting and rewarding year for our students. It is our belief that the school and the home are partners with a common purpose, that of providing the best possible educational experiences for the students. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have questions or issues which concern your son or daughter.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we work through staffing and enrollment changes during the first week of school. Like you, we are eager to get students settled into their permanent classes as soon as possible.

### Find Us On The Internet

You can find this **newsletter**, along with **Calendar Information** and other **Important Announcements** on our school website: <http://cameron.sd41.bc.ca>

### New Families

A big welcome to the many families who are new to our Cameron community. Please be sure to stop by and introduce yourselves to the Office Staff. There are many ways that new parents can connect with our community and a great place to start is with our Parent Advisory Committee. Please come to our PAC meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup>. You can also take a look on our website to connect with any of the executive to learn how you can become involved!!

### New Staff:

The Cameron School Staff, PAC Executive and the Cameron Community are pleased to welcome the following new staff.

Ms. Wyatt (Classroom Teacher)  
Ms. El Banna (Settlement)  
Ms. Meir (Resource)

Mr. Cohen (ELL Teacher)  
Ms. Sullivan (Resource Teacher)

Mr. Clark (Counsellor)  
Ms. Lee (Resource Teacher)

## Important Reminders

### School Schedule

School starts each day with a bell at 8:50 am. Students should arrive as close as possible to this time as we are unable to provide supervision before or after school. Our recess break starts at 10:35 am. We dismiss for lunch at 11:55 am. Students return to class at 12:35 pm and are dismissed for the day at 2:47 pm. Please be sure to make arrangements

for your child for before and after school supervision.

## **Student Safety**

**Street Crossing:** Please use the raised crosswalk on Bartlett Court. Jaywalking is dangerous and we need your help and example to get all of our children to and from school safely! Please remind your children about using safe practices when walking to school (always walking on the sidewalk, crossing at street corners and using the crosswalks).



**Parking:** Please follow the parking regulations as they provide a clear line of vision from the crosswalk. Please do not stop in front of the staff parking lot or the firelane.

**Bikes/Scooters:** For the safety of others, bikes and scooters are not to be ridden on school property.

## **School Organization, Multi-age Classes and Final Placements**

When placing students into classes, many factors are considered including the following: students' learning needs, learning styles, social/emotional development, balance of male and female students, class size, Parent Requests, etc. Your child may be placed in a single or combined grade class. Research indicates that students do well in both types of classrooms.

In BC, as in most of the western world, multi-age classes are common learning environments. This model is based both on educational philosophy and administrative need. Educational philosophy about multi-age classes has changed significantly over the past thirty years. Research has consistently shown that multi-age classes have several benefits, including positive results in academic, social and emotional development. The Ministry of Education has also set class size limits, making multi-age classes a necessity.

One of the most common misconceptions about combined classes is that a child's placement in the lower grade of the class indicates superior academic abilities while a placement in the upper grade suggest weaker ability. This is not the case. For example, a Grade 3/4 class and a Grade 4/5 would be organized based on the range of criteria discussed above to create two fairly balanced classes.

Determining final class placements is a complex and time-consuming process that involves many factors some of which are described above. **Once we finalize student placements, changes are no longer possible without impacting several other students.** We respectfully ask that parents work with their children and their assigned teacher in a positive and pro-active manner to build new relationships. This is an opportunity for all students to have new experiences, meet new challenges and make new friends.

Thank you for your understanding and your cooperation in helping your child adjust to the changes that September will bring.

## **Student Photos**

Individual student photos will be taken on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **Absences and Lates**

Please phone our school secretary, Mrs. Verlaan, at 604-664-8622, between 8:00 and 8:50 am or leave a message on the school's voice mail whenever your child is absent from school or will be arriving late. If we do not hear from you and your child is absent we will attempt to phone you. Please keep us informed of changes in phone numbers, addresses and emergency contacts. Any student who arrives late must first come to the school office to sign in and then proceed to their classroom. We expect students to arrive on time. Arriving on time helps children begin their day smoothly. Not only is promptness an excellent lifelong habit but it is also less distracting for other students.

## Life Threatening Allergies

Several of our students have life threatening allergies so we want to make our school community as safe as possible. Several students have severe reactions to nuts so their classrooms need to be nut-free areas. Please respect the safety of all our students and staff by complying with the allergy signage around the school.

## Medical Information

If your child has any medical problems, it is important to inform the school. Medical forms need to be completed and kept on file at school if your child has one or more of the following health issues: diabetes, asthma, seizure disorder, severe allergies, and/or hearing impairment. If your child needs medication during school hours a request for administration of medication at school form must be on file. Be sure to obtain the relevant form(s) from Mrs. Verlaan at the school office. Return completed forms to the office.

## PAC Meetings

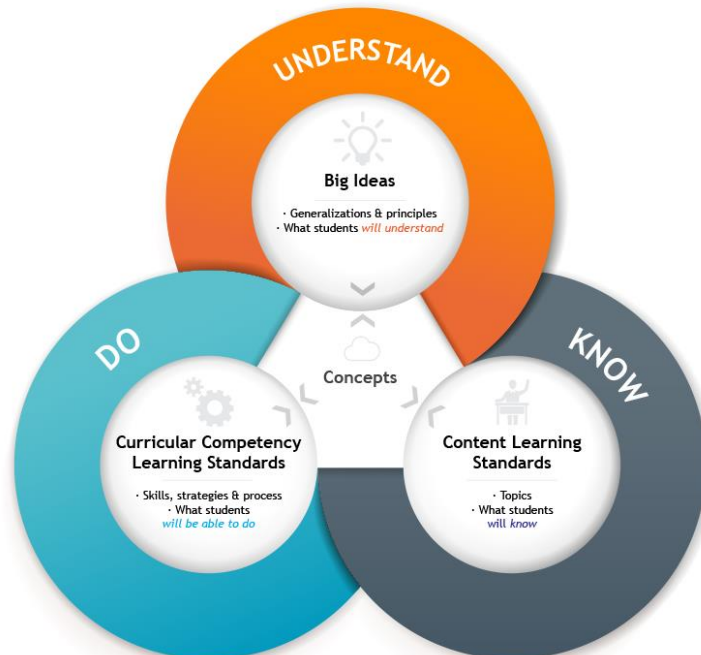
Greetings to all parents and staff from Cameron Parent Advisory Council. We hope everyone had a good summer and are all glad to be back in the routine of school! The next PAC meeting which is open to all interested parents will take place in the Library on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Volunteers

If you would like your name added to our volunteer list please email [jenzerkee@gmail.com](mailto:jenzerkee@gmail.com) and provide your contact information. The PAC is always looking for volunteers for events. The PAC executive elections will be held in January. Please give some thought to putting your name forward as we have lost a few key folks due to moves, etc. Thanks and look forward to seeing you all soon. Jane Ann Mintenko, PAC Chair.

## Dressing for the Weather

On the West Coast we live in a temperate rain forest. This means we tend to get a lot of rain throughout the year. It's important for children to have movement breaks during the day so, unless it is unsafe to do so, we will send students outside at recess (15 minutes) and lunch (45 minutes) rain or shine. Please send your child with an appropriate coat and hat on rainy days. Thank you for your cooperation.



# Cameron School Calendar 2017/18

Note: Some dates may be subject to change.  
Please check our monthly newsletter for updates.

PAC Meeting: All parents welcome to attend.....	Tuesday, September 12
Parent/Teacher Interviews - Early Dismissal at 1:15pm .....	Wednesday, September 20
Parent/Teacher Interviews - Early Dismissal at 1:15pm .....	Thursday, September 21
Welcome Back BBQ .....	Thursday, September 28
School Based Pro D Day (School closed) .....	Friday, September 22
Terry Fox Run .....	Friday, September 29
Thanksgiving Holiday .....	Monday, October 09
Individual Student Photo Day .....	Tuesday, October 10
Provincial Pro-D Day (School closed).....	Friday, October 20
Curriculum Implementation Day (School Closed).....	Monday, October 23
Halloween Events .....	Tuesday, October 31
Remembrance Day Assembly .....	Thursday, November 9 @ 10:45am
School Closure Day .....	Friday November 10
Remembrance Day Holiday (Holiday) .....	Monday, November 13
District Pro-D Day (School closed).....	Friday, November 24
Winter Break (Return Monday, January 8, 2017) .....	December 25 - January 05
B.C. Family Day (School closed) .....	Monday, February 12
District Pro-D Day (School closed).....	Friday, February 16
Student Group Photos .....	Monday, March 05
Spring Break (School closed - Return on Tuesday April 3).....	March 19-30
Easter Monday (Holiday) .....	Monday, April 02
School Based Pro-D Day (School closed).....	Monday, April 23
Student-Led Conferences - Early Dismissal at 1:15pm .....	Thursday, April 26
Early Dismissal (1:15pm) .....	Friday, May 18
Victoria Day (Holiday).....	Monday, May 21
Welcome to Kindergarten (9:15-11:00am).....	Friday, May 27
Sports Day (12:45pm Dismissal).....	Friday, June 01
School Based Pro-D Day (School closed).....	Monday, June 6
School wide event (details TBD) .....	Thursday, June 16
Recognition Assembly.....	Wednesday, June 27
Grade 7 Leaving Assembly (9:15-10:15am).....	Thursday, June 28
Last Day of School (10:30am Dismissal).....	Thursday, June 28
Teacher Administration Day (School Closed).....	Friday June 29

# September Calendar 2017

## Cameron Elementary

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				<b>1</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> School Opens Welcome Back!	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> School Wide activity Art Starts	<b>8</b> School Wide activity Art Starts
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Buddy Read in the park p.m. Family Picnic Lunch
<b>18</b> x-country meet 3:30-4:30 Bby Lake East Sports Complex	<b>19</b> Kindergarten students begin full day	<b>20</b> Intake Meetings Early Dismissal 1:15	<b>21</b> Intake Meetings Early Dismissal 1:15	<b>22</b> School Based Pro-D Day School Closed
<b>25</b> x-country meet 3:30-4:30 Bby Lake East Sports Complex	<b>26</b> Div 8 & 9 SoapStone Carving 9-2:45pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Terry Fox Run

# Parent Advisory Council (PAC) News

[www.cameronpac.ca](http://www.cameronpac.ca)

*Every parent and guardian of a Cameron student is a member of the Cameron PAC.*

SEPTEMBER 2017

The PAC welcomes all new and returning students and staff to a new year at Cameron!

## WHAT IS THE PAC?

PAC stands for *Parent Advisory Council*. The PAC represents parents and guardians and provides input to the school and the district about any aspect of education. The PAC encourages parent involvement in the school and provides a forum for discussion of issues related to education.

## 什么是PAC? | 什麼是PAC?

### 학부모 자문위원회란?

For translated information see

[www.cameronpac.ca/about](http://www.cameronpac.ca/about).

## WHAT DOES THE PAC DO?

The PAC raises funds through various activities such as chocolate sales and family photos, in order to purchase educational materials and equipment and support school events.

### Purchases with PAC funds 2016-2017

Classroom resources	\$2100
Science kits	\$2000
Cameron Cubs jerseys	\$1800
Portable projectors	\$1700
Field trip transportation	\$1500
Library books	\$1000
Music equipment	\$1000

We also developed an outdoor learning ground, including boulders for class seating and picnic tables, with a \$5000 grant from TD Friends of the Environment (pictured below).



*The PAC hosts social events for the school community; raises funds to purchase tech, sports, and music equipment; and supports both families and the school in many other ways.*



## NEXT PAC MEETING

Tuesday, September 12, 7:00-9:00pm, school staff room. *All parents are welcome! We will be discussing our events and fundraising plans for the 2017-2018 year.*

The agenda will be posted on the PAC website and in the school a week in advance.

The PAC coordinates and contributes to numerous events throughout the school year—watch for notices or check [www.cameronpac.ca](http://www.cameronpac.ca) for event information and ways to get involved!

### PAC-run events

Welcome Back coffees  
Welcome Back BBQ  
Multicultural Dinner  
Staff Appreciation

### School events involving PAC

Pancake Breakfast  
Fruit and Vegetable Program  
Bread Program  
Emergency Preparedness  
Field trips

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

These events and fundraising take a lot of time and effort—we are *always* looking for volunteers! To find out more about getting involved in your child's school, come to our meeting on September 12 or fill out the attached volunteer form and return it to the school or email it to [cameronvolunteers@hotmail.com](mailto:cameronvolunteers@hotmail.com).



# Parent Advisory Council (PAC) News

[www.cameronpac.ca](http://www.cameronpac.ca)

*Every parent and guardian of a Cameron student is a member of the Cameron PAC.*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- PAC Meeting: Tuesday, September 12 (7:00-9:00pm, school staff room)
- Welcome Back BBQ: Thursday, September 28 (4:00-6:00pm, outside near the Music portable). Students and their families, teachers, and staff are invited to join us for a BBQ. Burgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, drinks, and treats will be available at a reasonable cost.



## CONTACT THE PAC

Contact us through the contact form at [www.cameronpac.ca](http://www.cameronpac.ca), or leave a message for us at the school office. We can address any questions or concerns you have about the PAC or the school.

## 2017-2018 PAC EXECUTIVE

Our executive members were elected at the PAC Annual General Meeting last May, and will serve until the end of the school year.

<i>Chair</i>	Jen Zerkee
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Shalin Roggeveen
<i>Secretary</i>	Kari Hoskin
<i>Treasurer</i>	Erika Castellanos
<i>Social Coordinator</i>	Andrea Flett
<i>Fundraising Coordinator</i>	VACANT (Maryam Mahdavian—temp)
<i>Special Projects Coordinator</i>	VACANT
<i>Emergency Preparedness</i>	Maryam Mahdavian
<i>DPAC Liaison</i>	VACANT (Jen Zerkee—temp)

We are still looking for a Fundraising Coordinator, a Special Projects Coordinator, and a DPAC (Burnaby District PAC) Liaison to serve this year. If you would like to know more about either of these positions, please contact [chair@cameronpac.ca](mailto:chair@cameronpac.ca).



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# Cameron Parent Advisory Council

## Volunteer Application Form

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School: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Mr.  Ms.  
 Mrs.  Miss

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (Please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

*There are one-time (e.g. pancake breakfast) and ongoing (bread, fruit and veg. program) job opportunities available at variable times and on different days of the week.*

Type of Volunteer Opportunity Preferred: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Special Skills, Languages: \_\_\_\_\_

Formal Certificates (e.g. NCCP, First Aid): \_\_\_\_\_

Interests, Hobbies (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Availability:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_