

Cameron Elementary School: safe, respectful, supportive and compassionate

May 2025 Newsletter

<https://cameron.burnabyschools.ca>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Hello Cameron Community,

As we wrap up another incredible school year next month, I want to thank you for all the support, encouragement, and teamwork that helped make this year so successful. It is a joy watching your children grow and learn this year.

In preparation for classes in the coming school year, staff have been having conversations about students' social and emotional needs, ELL and learning support requirements. Students' strengths, leadership abilities, class size and composition are also carefully considered to ensure effective organization of classes. Our dedication to this placement process reflects our commitment to meeting the unique needs of each student while also fostering a positive learning environment for the entire class.

The staff spends a tremendous amount of time to create thoughtful, well-organized classes for the up-coming school year. Parental input is also considered, and parents are encouraged, if they feel it is needed, to provide relevant information about their child's academic, social-emotional, or physical needs for consideration in the placement process. Although parent input is valued, requests for specific teachers are not accommodated. To ensure a thorough review of any written information concerning your child's needs, we kindly ask for email submissions as soon as possible. At the latest, submissions must be in by June 4th.

This will allow us time to evaluate specific requests as we organize classroom placements. Please note that any submissions received after this date will not be considered. For confidentiality purposes, please forward this information directly to my email address at: sean.gaster@burnabyschools.ca

Final classes will be confirmed in early September following approval from the district. Once placements are finalized, changes become challenging without affecting other students. This upcoming year presents an opportunity for students to embrace new experiences, overcome challenges, and forge new friendships. Developing the ability to adapt to new situations is a valuable life skill that will benefit students in the long run. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this process.

Summer break will arrive end of next month, this will be a time for rest, reflection, and rejuvenation. It's also a wonderful opportunity to make lasting memories as a family. Whether you're traveling, exploring nature, visiting the library in the mall, or simply enjoying quiet moments at home, I encourage you to take full advantage of this time with your children. Some of you are back at school participating in summer session here at Cameron. I know this time will be full of both discovery and novel experiences. Learning doesn't stop when the school doors close—it simply takes on a new shape.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. Wishing you and your family a safe and enjoyable end of the school year.

Sincerely, *Sean Gaster*
Cameron Elementary Principal

Mr. S. Gaster, Principal Mr. M. Nielsen, Vice-Principal Ms. D. Rampersad, Head Teacher Mrs. J. Brown, Secretary



School Goals Information for 2025-2026

<https://cameron.burnabyschools.ca/cameron-elementary-school-plan/>



What is our Value Statement?

- At Cameron, staff, students and parents work together to provide a safe, respectful, compassionate, and supportive school community.

What is a School Goal?

- Measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound targets that we as a staff set to improve Cameron student's learning, well-being, climate, and overall school environment. These goals are developed based on our value statement listed above.

Cameron Elementary School Goals

GOAL 1 : SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

- To foster responsible, ethical, and informed digital citizens by embedding digital literacy and citizenship education within a social and emotional learning (SEL) framework across all grade levels.

GOAL 2 : NUMERACY

- To improve the numeracy performance of all students by increasing the number of students meeting proficiency at their grade level.

International Day of Pink

Thank you to all the students and staff who wore pink on Wednesday April 9! The International Day of Pink is a powerful opportunity to stand up against homophobia, transphobia, and all forms of discrimination. By wearing pink, we show our support for members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community—both within our school and in the broader world. We affirm that everyone deserves to feel safe, respected, and valued, both at Cameron and beyond. We also recognize and appreciate that there are many meaningful ways to show support. Whether you wore pink or expressed your commitment to respect in other ways, your participation helped share the message that everyone belongs in our community.



TRACK AND FIELD



Congratulations to the Cameron Track team on an amazing 2025 season! The students who participated demonstrated dedication, effort, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship. Students in grades 4-7 practiced before school twice a week and finished the season with an awards meet at Swangard Stadium where they were able to showcase their growing skills in the 4x100m relay, the 100m sprint, as well as the 200m, 400m, and 800m races. Well done track team!

Thank you to the parents who drove to the track meets as we would not have been able to participate without you!

Mr. Borean, Ms. T. Wong, & Ms. Wyatt



Grade 7 - Business Fair

The students of Divisions 1, 2, and 3 put their business and marketing talents on display for a Business Fair. Groups created products and pricing that was put to the test on whether they would be in the black or the red by the end of the day. Many groups successfully sold all their product and a few even took some future orders to fill!



Grade 7 - Business Fair



Choir Festival



We had 70 Cameron students participated in the choir festival this year! It was a fantastic event and there was an amazing feedback from the adjudicator. - Ms. Hall



Festival Of Beginning Bands

Our Cameron Band did an amazing job performing at the Festival of Beginning Bands. They were joined by five other schools to showcase individual pieces as well as combined, for a couple of spectacular all band pieces. In the first week of June, parents of our band and choir will be invited to an evening performance to hear their year-end progress.



Messages from the PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

Dear Cameron Community,

This year our PAC membership grew considerably. However a few strong, contributing members are not returning. A huge **'Thank You'** and best wishes to our members:

Sandra Vargas—Treasurer **Hajira Insafi**—Social Coordinator **Yoanna Doykova**—Fundraising

Sandra kept our finances orderly during dark times, diligently answering the call to support our PAC. We will miss you *Sandra*! *Hajira* jumped in to kick-start our social activities as we emerged from COVID.

We couldn't have pulled these off without you! *Yoanna* brought fire and spirit to our fundraising activities, to our discussion of status quo and inspired contribution from many new sources!

We look forward to welcoming MORE MEMBERS as our year concludes and at the beginning of the next school year!



Chair - Nominee: Rami Touffaha

Vice Chair - Nominee: Jesse Corrigan

Secretary - VACANT

Treasurer - Nominee: Robert (and Carla) Guwick

Social Coordinator - Nominee: Leanne Bentley

DPAC Liaison - VACANT

Emergency Preparedness - Nominee: Nargis Andish/Ramya Gajula

Special Projects Coordinator - VACANT

Communication Coordinator - Nominee: Melissa Wilson

Fundraising Coordinator - VACANT

Members-At-Large - Nominee: Nakoa Faulconer/Leila Marghi

Many of these roles can be supported REMOTELY, with periodic in-person events. Reach out with questions to Cameronchair.pac@gmail.com. We will strive to answer in a timely manner.

Future Meeting Dates:

May 15 (AGM)

June 19

Our Next PAC Meeting:

(All parents/guardians are welcome to attend!)

Thursday, June 19th , 2025 @ 7:00 pm in the school library

—————**Keep in touch**—————

If you'd like to contact us, please send us an email at

cameronvolunteer.pac@gmail.com

Messages from the PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

REMINDER: Ongoing Fundraisers

The Cameron Community can help raise funds by participating in the campaigns that are on-going:

Loveable Labels

click [here](#) to access the site and place orders!

Cobs Bread

Mention *Cameron Elementary* when purchasing items and a portion of your purchase will go towards our school!

Express Return-It Depot

Provide the Cameron Elementary phone number (604-296-9005) to donate your refund amount to our Cameron school Campaign!

Nellie's Cleaning Supplies

https://nelliesfundraising.ca/collections/all-products/?sca_ref=7905956.nsYdYhW7go&fbclid=IwY2xjawlkQKJleHRuA2FibQlxMQABHWGqNfHM0mOslkln25PTKh0_2TpgB6-DqBujSFctURXUhqq1UBliH8IF-A_aem_96gL7D6Hz-l45WfXUwwOsw

Colibri—Eco Friendly Products

<https://colibrifundraising.com/>

Pedal Heads

use code 25CAMERON and get \$25 off



School Schedule

School starts each day with a warning bell at 8:55am. Students should arrive as close to our starting time as possible to this time as we are unable to provide supervision before or after school.

Please be sure to make arrangements for your child for before and after school supervision.

Morning	8:55am	Classes begin.
	10:15am	Recess break begins.
	10:30am	Recess break ends.
	11:55am	Lunch break begins.
Afternoon	12:05pm	Students may go outside
	12:40pm	Classes begin for the afternoon.
	2:48pm	Students dismissed to go home.



Absences and Lates

Please contact the school before 8:45am whenever your child is absent from school or will be arriving late, preferably by email to Cameron.Info@burnabyschools.ca, otherwise by phone 604-296-9005 Option 2.



Please provide the following information: Child's First and Last Name, Teacher's name or Division, Dates of absence or, if late, estimated time of arrival.

If we do not hear from you and your child is absent, we will attempt to contact 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



Cameron Elementary School is a "**Nut Aware**" school. There are a number of children with life-threatening nut/peanut allergies at our school. We strongly request that your child NOT bring any nut/peanut products to school. If it is essential your child bring a nut product, please let the teacher know so they can take extra precautions. Nut-safe snack ideas include: yogurt, fruit, cheese and crackers, nut-free granola bars, pasta, veggies and dip, boiled eggs and cottage cheese. Thank you for keeping our school a safe place for everyone.



- **Pro D Day** - June 6, 2025 (NO CLASSES)
- **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL** (before summer break) - June 26, 2025
-Early dismissal on this day is at 10:30am
- **SCHOOL REOPENS** (classes begin) – September 2, 2025

Hot Lunch Program

Please make payments through School Cash Online at <https://burnaby.schoolcashionline.com/>

Full payments and partial to fully subsidized options are available.

If you are experiencing trouble signing up for School Cash, please email or call our secretary and she will be happy to help you. You can reach our secretary at Janice.Brown@burnabyschools.ca or at 604-296-9005. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Dressing for the Weather



Just a reminder that students will be going outside at recess and lunch time, with the exception of extreme weather. *Please make sure your child(ren) are dressed appropriately for the weather as they will be going outside in inclement weather.*

We highly recommend a change of clothes be left at school for students.

When to keep your child at home

The cold and flu season is in full swing, and we thought it a good reminder of when it is appropriate to send your child to school and when is it not.

Things to consider if your child feels **unwell**:

- The wellbeing of your child. Without proper rest, a child may have a hard time fighting an illness or be at risk of other illnesses.
- The ability of your child to actively take part and learn at school.
- The school staff cannot care for a sick child and give them the support that they may need.
- The protection of other children and the school staff



Please keep your child at home if they:

- Have a fever
- Are too sick to take part in all normal school activities.
- Have a suspected or known communicable disease (i.e. strep throat, chicken pox, measles).
- Is vomiting or has diarrhea. It is recommended that students be symptom free at least 24 hours before returning to school.

Keep your child home until they are able to participate fully in normal school activities or as told by a health care provider.

(Adapted from: <https://www.vch.ca/en/when-should-i-keep-my-sick-child-home-school>)

TRAFFIC GUIDELINES

- **The school parking lot is for staff members only.** It is not to be used for drop off or pickup of students at any time. Please do not stop in front of the staff parking lot or the fire lane.
- During early morning choir/breakfast program drop off, please drop students off at the front of the school. Students are welcome to enter using the front door and walk through the school and out the back door to access the music portable.
- Please consider walking to school and/or using the Lougheed Mall Parking lot to walk over to the school. To ensure that students safely cross the street, please use the raised crosswalk on Bartlett Court. Jaywalking is dangerous and we need your help and example to get all 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.)
- If you need to pull in front of the school, please turn around in the cul-de-sac first. You are welcome to pull up alongside the school sidewalk to drop off but please ask your children to get out of the car facing the sidewalk, not the road. All parents must stay in their vehicles (up to 5 mins only) as this is a drop off zone only.
- Please never do a U-turn in the middle of any of our surrounding roads. This is illegal and extremely unsafe. Please use the cul-de-sacs to turn around. We have had several complaints from our community about this unsafe practice. **Our liaison officers are aware of this concern and will be monitoring the area.**



Cameron Elementary School Website

<https://cameron.burnabyschools.ca>

Our school website offers a variety of ways to keep updated on events and information about our school community and is updated regularly. Here are a few features that we hope are helpful:

- The **“Calendar”** drop-down menu on our homepage, has access to a monthly events calendar, as well as a list of important dates and the district’s 3-year calendar. A list of upcoming events is also available on the right side of the homepage.
- The **“School Info”** drop-down menu includes several resources about school policies and procedures.
- The **“Staff”** tab has a list of all our staff members, useful if you should need to contact your child’s teacher, you can find a direct link to email him or her.
- The **“Parents”** tab has links to the Hot Lunch Program Menu Calendar, Cameron PAC, Newsletters, School Fees Online, School Supply Lists, and Child Care Resource and YMCA Kids Club

Parents have an important role in the child's education. As a parent, you can help by supporting your child in their schoolwork and homework, and by getting involved in your child's school.

Support your child by:

- Being patient and supportive of your child in learning and adjusting to a new environment (it takes time).
- Being willing to learn or understand a new culture and language (if you are new to this country).
- Listening carefully to understand your child's feelings.
- Accepting each child as an individual.
- Being positive – praise and encourage what the child has achieved or learned.
- Encouraging your child to get involved in school and community activities (for example, Parks & Recreation programs, Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Scouts).
- Discussing your child's report card with him/her. Your child will receive a report card at least three times a year. It is important for you to attend student-led conferences and parent-teacher conferences to discuss your child's progress. (Please bring someone who can help interpret for you, if needed.)
- Sharing family history and experiences. As a family you could visit the museum, library, park or explore your community. Have fun together.
- Ensuring your child dresses appropriately (for school activities and weather)
- Informing the school about changes in the home (i.e. illness, separations, death, etc.). This information is very beneficial for the school to better understand and support your child. This information will be kept confidential.
- Providing an escort for young children to and from school and with supervision before and after school.

Support your child's school work by:

- Working with your school and child to develop appropriate social and academic goals.
- Reading together to share ideas in the language with which you feel most comfortable.
- Taking your child to the public library and encouraging daily reading.
- Ensuring that your child attends school regularly.
- Reading all school emails, letters and notices. Most communications from the school will be by email.
- Getting ideas from the E.L.L. teacher about games, cards and other fun ways for your child to learn English.
- Providing your child with a study area.
- Helping to schedule a daily homework time.
- Helping your child with his/her homework only after he/she has tried to do it independently.
- Keeping younger children away from the study area if possible.
- Providing consequences for not doing homework.



Participate at your child's school by:

- Visiting the school and making an appointment to talk to your child's teachers to keep informed.
- Attending parent meetings and special activities at the school.
- Volunteering in the school/classroom.
- Seeking help if needed – teachers, counsellors and community agencies are there to assist.
- Joining Parent Advisory Committees

Message from Fraser Health Authority

Get outside and play

Physical activity is a necessary requirement for optimal health – and the benefits are even greater if you can do it outdoors.

Regular physical activity in childhood helps to develop cardiovascular fitness, muscle strength and bone density, and being outdoors is known to improve mental health.

There are many benefits to unstructured, outside play. When children spend time outside, they:

1. Sit less, move more and play longer – key to cardiovascular health and fitness.
2. Have healthier eyes – 10+ hours a week outside reduces nearsightedness risks.
3. Sleep better – sunlight helps regulate melatonin and sleep patterns.
4. Enjoy improved mood – exercise reduces symptoms of anxiety and depression.
5. Feel more connected to nature – experience calm and develop mindfulness.



Message from Fraser Health Authority

Planning active outings doesn't have to be challenging or costly. Here are some ideas that you can try this week:

1. Go for a walk or hike – try these 10 hikes to take your kids on this summer.
2. Play in a forest or park – try a new regional park every day for a week.
3. Climb a tree – this Vancouver climbing tree is inspiring, but start smaller!
4. Explore a local stream – check these beautiful watershed walks in the region.
5. Play hopscotch or jump rope – try teaching these six fun jump rope games.
6. Swim at the pool, waterpark or beach – check beach safety conditions first.
7. Ride a bike or scooter – find easy, family-friendly cycling routes.
8. Visit farms, fish hatcheries and bird sanctuaries – this local family fun guide has unique ideas.

Find more ideas to keep your kids active through the year on

Fraser Health's website: <https://ow.ly/lrmm50PezbK>





WHAT IS FUN FAIR?

Every 2nd year, Stoney Creek Community Council (PAC) organizes a Community Fun Fair, which is like a carnival. This is our largest community event that welcomes over 500 people to our school for games, food, and fun!

This year you can look forward to events such as:

- LOTS of fun games and activities for all ages, including the preschool room!
- Photo booth, face painting, toilet toss, and more
- Silent Auction, Basket Raffle, Dessert Dance, 50/50 draw, concession
- A sensory safe room
- Three Food Trucks: White Spot, Kona Ice, Lee's Donuts, and REEL Mac and Cheese

WHERE WILL THE PROFITS GO?

The Fun Fair is Stoney's major fundraising opportunity. All profits from the event will go towards enhancing school programs and activities which will directly benefit our students. Your support is essential to ensure our school provides the best learning experience for our students.

HOW DO I BUY A WRISTBAND?

When you buy a wristband for \$20 you get UNLIMITED ACCESS to all games and activities. We will sell wrist bands (as well as food tickets, 50/50 tickets, and basket raffle tickets) early through MunchaLunch to help avoid large line ups at Fun Fair. However, there will be an option to purchase wristbands at the event.

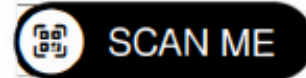
Please note: Wristbands cannot be used for food purchases (trucks and concession), Silent Auction or the 50/50 draw.

***Please treat wristbands like cash. We cannot replace lost or stolen bands.*



**Celebrating Summers of Fun and Adventure
Since 1982!**

Join Us for a Summer of Adventure at FUN REC DAY CAMP!



WEEKLY SCHEDULE AND ACTIVITIES

- JUN 30 - JUL 4 - AQUARIUM
- JUL 7 -11 - BIG SPLASH (FULL)
- JUL 14 - 18 - SCIENCE WORLD
- JUL 21 - 25 - SECOND BEACH & POOL
- JUL 28 - AUG 1 - CULTUS LAKE (FULL)
- AUG 5 - 8 - PLAYLAND (FULL)



**CAMP LOCATION:
STONEY CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOL
2740 BEAVERBROOK CRES.**



CAMP FEES FOR 2025 - \$230 PER CAMPER, PER WEEK

INFO@FUNRECDAYCAMP.COM



GAME ON!

Girls



Try soccer
free
Mondays

Age 3 - 11

Contact: vp-minis@sbmcsoccer.com for free tryouts

SFU RUGBY FAMILY DAY & TRY RUGBY BBQ

SUNDAY, MAY. 25, 2025

Join us for a **FREE** fun-filled day of rugby and community celebration!

11am-12pm TRY RUGBY for all ages
U5 - U11
Girls Only
U12 & Older

12pm onward BBQ & Family Mini-Games!
Parents, siblings & friends welcome to join the fun!

Location: SFU Field 2

Contact: nighinarahimi@gmail.com





Discover *FIRST* Robotics - Invitation from Creekside Robotics

Creekside Robotics, a student-led robotics team from Byrne Creek Community School, is excited to invite you to our upcoming **Info Night!**

FIRST Robotics is for all interests, whether your child is into engineering, coding, business, media, or art, there is a place for them in Creekside Robotics! Students of all skill levels are welcome, and no prior experience is needed.

Join us to:

- See a live robot demonstration
- Meet our incredible students and mentors
- Learn how students can get involved, including in non-technical roles
- Discover how *FIRST* opens up over \$80 Million in scholarships

RSVP @ <https://forms.gle/JfNfSYqCuM4hUMHk9>

Wednesday, June 4th 6-7pm

Byrne Creek Community School

We will see you then! Feel free to share this with other families in the community!



Burnaby RCMP Open House

Saturday, May 31 | 10 am-3 pm

Burnaby RCMP Detachment | 6355 Deer Lake Avenue

Join us for a fun-filled day at the Burnaby RCMP Open House!

Explore police vehicles and equipment, snap a pic with a Mountie, enjoy face painting, food trucks, and more!



[Burnaby.ca/RCMPOpenHouse](https://burnaby.ca/RCMPOpenHouse)





7825 Edmonds Street, Burnaby
Open 10 am - 5 pm daily

www.basesburnaby.ca

We are a Burnaby based non-profit society. To date we have donated nearly \$900,000 to Burnaby public schools. We fund out-of-school and after-school programs for kids, youth and families, who could not otherwise afford such programming.

Come see what we have in store - drop off any donations and stay to shop!