Lyndhurst Elementary School

Lyndhurst Street, Burnaby, BC V3J 1E9 Phone: 604-296-9020

September 13, 2026

Good afternoon, Lyndhurst Families!
We hope that the start of the 2026/2027 school year has been a good one for all of you. We are eager to work with our students, families, and community members to make this an exciting and rewarding school year. Below is a list of our staff for the 2026/2027 school year.

Principal	Mr. Kurt Gurney
Vice Principal	Ms. Dana Herdman
Office Administrator	Ms. Stoney
Grade 6 / 7 – Division 1	Mr. Singh
Grade 4 / 5 – Division 2	Mr. Lathigee
Grade 3 – Division 3	Ms. Youssefi
Grade 1 / 2 – Division 4	Ms. Chin
Kindergarten and Grade 1 – Division 5	Ms. Cheema
Librarian	Ms. Solomon
Counsellor	Ms. Harrison
Learning Support Teacher and Indigenous Learning Inquiry Teacher (ILIT)	Ms. Svetic
English Language Learning Teachers (ELL)	Ms. Panagiotou & Ms. Herdman
Music, French, and Health & Physical Education Teacher	Ms. Lee
Education Assistant (EA)	Ms. Jahns
Education Assistant (EA)	Ms. Choi
Education Assistant (EA)	Ms. Ladd
Education Assistant (EA)	Ms. Pallister
Education Assistant (EA)	Ms. Perez
Speech Language Pathologist (SLP)	Ms. Bottrill
District Literacy Intervention Teacher (DLIT)	Ms. Leith
District Learning Support Teacher (DLST)	Ms. Eddy
Custodian	Mr. Farina
Noon Hour Supervisor	Ms. Tait

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new staff members:
-Ms. Ladd is joining us as an Education Assistant
-Ms. Leith is joining us as our District Literacy Intervention Teacher

Class Placements

Students have now been assigned to their permanent classes for the 2026/2027 school year. Decisions for classroom placement are made collaboratively by our professional teaching staff. To ensure the placement is in the best interest of each individual student, many criteria are considered including:

- District & Ministry policies
- Teacher & School Based Team recommendations
- Student(s) with diverse abilities
- Educational Assistant (EA) support
- Learning Support Services (LSS) & English Language Learning Services (ELL) support
- Academic ability and performance
- Developmental level of the child – behavioural and emotional
- Learning styles
- Social compatibility/friendships
- Gender balance
- Class and group dynamics
- Parental input

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With our organization for the 2026/2027 school year, we have 80 students in 5 divisions. 4 of our 5 divisions are combined classes. Combined classes are common in most school districts. Studies show that students in combined classes perform just as well as students in single grade classes.

In every classroom, regardless of whether it is a combined grade class, there is a wide range of abilities, talents, and performance levels. All of the teachers and staff at Lyndhurst work hard to structure learning activities according to the needs of each learner. Once we move students into classes, changes in placements are not possible as there are numerous factors involved in making changes.

Some children find the transition to their new grade and class placement challenging, and we may need to spend time helping them adjust to the circumstances. As adults, we play an important role in modelling patience, respect, and resilience for our children as they settle into new routines and learning environments. With home and school support, children adjust and settle happily into the new situation.

Here are some tips to help children adjust to their new teachers and classrooms:

1. **Help your child build resiliency**
   Some children are more sensitive to change. You can help your child adapt to new situations by remaining calm and reassuring them that it is normal to be nervous or uncertain and that you believe in their ability to work through these new changes.
2. **Give it some time**
   Giving children time to settle in can make a huge difference. Worries and concerns almost always resolve themselves on their own.
3. **Talk to your child's teacher**
   Working together with your child's teacher and school staff will help your child's learning experience and build trust.

Attendance

Regular attendance is an essential part of determining student success at school. It is important that students come to school on time and that their attendance is consistent. In doing so, they can become an active part of the classroom learning community. This in turn causes less anxiety and students will be much more comfortable interacting with their classmates. If your child is going to be away from school, please email lyndhurst.info@burnabyschools.ca or phone 604-296-9020 and leave a message with your child's first name, last name, and their division number or the name of their teacher.

Late Arrivals

If your child arrives late, please have them sign in at the office before going to their classroom. This ensures that the school office is aware of our students' attendance.

Tips on Arriving on Time:

· Pack backpacks in the evening

· Have your child get to bed at a reasonable time so they will have an easier time waking up in the morning

· Have your child set an alarm in their own room

Leaving During the Day

If a student is leaving during the day or for the afternoon, they are asked to check out at the office. Also, the school or teacher must be notified by the parent that the student will be absent. Students will not be permitted to leave the school grounds during the school day without parental consent.

Supervision

This is just a reminder to families that there is no supervision on our playground or school property for students before 8:50am and after 3:00pm unless students are in school before or after school programs (i.e. clubs, sports, etc.).

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Allergies & Sensitivities

Lyndhurst is a **NUT AWARE** school. We have staff members and students who have nut allergies. When you pack your child's snack and lunch, please do not pack any food that may contain nuts (i.e. peanut butter, Nutella, granola bars with nuts).

Also, Lyndhurst is a **SCENT AWARE** school. We have staff and students who have a sensitivity to perfumes and scented products. We ask that when you or your child/children enter our school you do not wear excessively scented products (i.e. body sprays, creams, hair products).

Thank you very much for your help and support.

West Coast Recess and Lunch Hour & Outdoor Activities

Students will enjoy the outdoors for 15 minutes at recess (10:25-10:40am) and approximately 40 minutes during the lunch hour (12:15-12:52pm). In addition to this, teachers often take their classes outside for physical activity. Please ensure that your child is prepared for our West Coast Recess and Lunch and outdoor physical activity by helping your child/children choose appropriate clothing for the weather throughout the school year. Also, we encourage all families to send their child/children to school will a full change of clothes in case their clothes get wet and extra clothing is needed (i.e. getting wet from puddle splashing, heavy rainfall)

Important Drop off and Pick up Safety Reminders

*****Parents should not be entering the staff parking with their vehicle to drop off or pick up students. The parking lot is for staff only.*****

Our driveway is a shared pathway for vehicles and pedestrians. This has been an ongoing concern for all community members and Burnaby School District staff. We have requested additional signage to be placed along our driveway, and we have requested to have 2 speed bumps installed. In addition to this, to make Lyndhurst a safer place when students, community members, and family members enter and exit the school, please remind your child/children to make every effort to do the following:

- **In the morning:**
  NEW Students should gather/line up under the covered area in their 2026/2027 divisions. We are making this change to alleviate crowding at the entry door and to ensure everyone's safety when the door opens/closes before the bell rings. This will also keep students dry when the rain starts.
  -All students will enter the school from the "middle doors" (the same doors the students enter at recess and lunch beside the staff parking lot). These doors will be open by 8:50am and will be locked at 9:00am.
  -If your child is late or arrives at school after 9:00am and the "middle doors" are locked, your child may enter the school through the front doors.
- **At the end of the school day:**
  -students will leave the school from the "middle doors", exit down the stairs, and walk beside the childcare centre to the front of the school.
  -students who attend childcare will go to the childcare centre using the hallway.
  -Divisions 5 will exit through the front doors (with a few exceptions) so that parents and caregivers may connect with teachers and staff.

Please continue to remind your child/children to walk around the parking lot (rather than through the parking lot) and/or down the stairs to so that they are away and safe from vehicles entering and exiting the parking lot.

School Website

Our school website is an excellent place to find information about school events, important dates, and links to school district and community services. Please have a look!
Lyndhurst Elementary | Burnaby School District (burnabyschools.ca)

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Snacks and Lunch

It is important that students come to school with healthy options for their snacks and lunches. Also, because we are a NUT AWARE school, we ask that families do not send their child/children to school with food items containing nuts. Also, please pack easy to open containers and all utensils needed for your child's snack and lunch so that they may begin eating promptly.

Early Dismissal

There will be an early dismissal on Thursday, September 24th at 2:00pm to accommodate our parent/guardian & teacher intake meetings. More information from teachers will be coming home about these meetings early next week.

Student Verification/Emergency Release Forms

Student Verification and Emergency Release forms will be coming home this week with your child/children. Please take some time to review the information on the forms to ensure that it is the most current information. Also, please be sure to include any medical information that is important for the school to be aware of, such as allergies.
Should the information on these forms change during the school year, please let your classroom teacher and Ms. Stoney know so that we may update our records.