



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2016

5787 Marine Drive Burnaby BC V5J 3H1
604-664-8800 phone
604-664-8844 fax
<http://glenwood.sd41.bc.ca> website

Principal: L. Magri
Vice Principal: L. McNary
Trustee: G. Wong
Secretary: S. Hajek

Welcome Back!

It is a great pleasure to once again extend a warm welcome to our students and families. It is great to be back in session and we are all looking forward to an exciting and dynamic year filled with curiosity, inquiry and meaningful learning.

School begins on Tuesday, Sept. 6. Students are in session from 8:57 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. New Kindergarten students are not expected to attend classes the first day. New Kindergarten children and their parents will be meeting with Ms. Amiri, our Kindergarten teacher.

On Tuesday morning returning students proceed to their June classroom. Students will be placed in family groupings. During the first week students will explore community and social responsibility, reconnect with friends, begin new friendships and settle into the school routine while working in family groups. Over the first few days students will have the opportunity to get to know every teacher and teachers will have the opportunity to get to know every student. In this way we build community and connection from the start of the school year. In the first week students review academic and social expectations at the school while reconnecting with friends, building new friendships and settling into the school routine. We have had some fluctuations in enrolment over the summer therefore class placement is not finalized until the end of the first week as is District practice. There will be a Welcome Assembly on Friday Sept. 9th at 9:30 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend.

September is a time of new beginnings. I would like to welcome staff new to our school. Ms. Brittany West and Ms. Marie James will be teaching our grade 1 / 2 class while Ms. Young enjoys her maternity leave with her new daughter. Ms. Natasha Veitch joins us to teach our grade 4 / 5 class while Ms. Kehler enjoys her maternity leave with her new baby boy.

I would like to remind families that we are a **"Peanut Aware"** school. Each year we have an increasing number of students with a life threatening allergy to peanuts and tree nuts. We ask that you keep this in mind when preparing your child's lunch and snack. Please do not send any item which contains nuts or nut oils to school. Many processed foods are now labelled peanut free. Your help and co-operation in keeping our children safe is much appreciated.

Parents, grandparents and guardians are important participants in their child's education and are always welcome at our school. Participation in the monthly Parent Advisory Council Meetings as well as various activities throughout the school year contributes to valuable educational experiences for your child.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you through community and classroom projects, extra-curricular activities and when you drop off or pick up your children. Please know that my door is always open should you have a question or concern or just to say hi.

Ms. L. McNary Vice Principal,
Glenwood Elementary



Glenwood Mission Statement:

- Inspire students to achieve their potential as lifelong learners.
- Provide an inclusive, safe, caring and respectful learning environment.
- Value individuality and diverse capabilities.
- Prepare students for the future so that they may contribute to society with compassion, respect, knowledge and confidence.

School Goal:

Our school goal to improve the Numeracy skills of all students from Kindergarten to Grade 7.

The staff at Glenwood would like to welcome you back to another exciting year filled with a variety of learning activities for the students. We are delighted to welcome a number of new families to our community.

Our school is characterized by a strong sense of community. Respecting others, co-operation and kindness are woven throughout our daily activities. Helping others and working together are valued by all members of our community. Staff at Glenwood work collaboratively to plan engaging learning activities for students, develop programming to meet diverse learning needs and plan special events throughout the school year. There are a variety of opportunities for parents to participate the school from supporting fundraising to reading with our younger students, sharing a skill or hobby or lending a hand with arts and crafts, helping with the different events that mark the school year or participating in Parent Advisory Meetings. Families are always welcome at Glenwood.

Teachers at Glenwood:

- Motivate our students by involving them in activities that are hands on.
- Personalize the learning and recognize that each child learns differently.
- Provide opportunities for students to work together and learn collaboratively.
- Are masters at adapting curriculum and designing lessons based on the Provincial Curriculum.

We are pleased that you have chosen Glenwood Elementary as your school. Parents are their children's first and most important teachers. Your involvement in your child/children's learning started long before they came to us. As partners in your child's future we welcome working with you to support the children in reaching their full potential. To this end we encourage:

- Questions or concerns directed to your child's teacher. This direct contact can usually clear up any misunderstanding or information. If further clarification is needed, feel free to contact Ms. McNary at the office.
- Your comments or suggestions directed to staff members in person or by telephone.
- Your assistance with volunteer programs, fund-raising, transportation, classroom support.
- Your input and involvement in educational matters (Parent Teacher Conference, School meetings and Special events, Parent Advisory Council)
- Referring to our school newsletter for information.

We would like to formally thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you throughout the year and we encourage your involvement your child's education. We truly feel blessed to serve the Glenwood community.

On behalf of the Glenwood staff,

Ms Lori McNary: Vice-Principal of Glenwood Elementary School

Glenwood Staff List 2016 – 2017

Office

Ms. Lori Magri	Principal of Glenwood and Clinton (based at Clinton)
Ms. Lori McNary	Vice-Principal (based at Glenwood)
Ms. Susan Hajek	School Secretary

Teaching Staff:

Div. 1 gr. 6/7 Mr. C. Grant	Div. 4 gr. 1/2 Ms. B. West/ Ms. M. James
Div. 2 gr. 4/5 Ms. N. Veitch	Div. 5 gr. K/1 Ms. Amiri
Div. 3 gr. 3 / 4 Ms. C. Pook	

Support Staff:

School Secretary: Ms. S. Hajek (8:45 – 3:15)	
Librarian: Ms. L. Nerpio (Tues. & Fri.)	Educational Assistant: Ms. L. Disterhoeft
Music Teacher: Ms. M. James (Wed. & Fri.)	Educational Assistant: Ms. E. Han
Counselor: Ms. T. Heal (Tues.)	Grade 7 Band: Ms. James
Resource/ ELL teachers: Ms. L. McNary / open	Noon Hour Supervisor: Ms. B. Wood Community Health Nurse: Morning custodian: Mr. R. Clarke (shared with Clinton Elem.) Afternoon custodian: Mr. N. Lal (shared with Clinton Elementary)

Bell Schedule

8:53	First bell. Students line up outside of classroom doors.
8:57	Instructional day begins
10:30	Recess
10:45	Recess ends
12:00	Lunch (no bell)
12:15	Students may go outside to play
12:50	Lunch hour ends.
3:01	Dismissal

Glenwood Elementary School provides a full range of educational programs for children of all learning styles and abilities from Kindergarten to Grade Seven. We believe in establishing commonly held beliefs, values and goals in partnership with the community. We strive to encourage enthusiasm for learning, respect for individual differences and mutually supportive relationships with students, parents, staff and community members. As our school motto affirms, we offer a caring, team approach to working with all members of the Glenwood learning community. We recognize learning as a lifelong process that requires the support and involvement of our community that our students are valued, and helping them attain their goals is our highest priority.

School District 41 Burnaby

604-296-6900, www.sd41.bc.ca

Superintendent: Ms Gina Niccoli-Moen,
Board of Education Chair: Mr. Ron Burton
Board of Education Vice-Chair: Mr. Harman Pandher
Glenwood School Liaison
Trustee: Mr. Gary Wong

CLASS ORGANIZATION

Thank you for your patience during the first week of school as teachers and staff worked to create classes for the coming year. Although the process appears simple, it is actually quite complicated. There are many factors to consider in placing students appropriately:

- Teachers decide which teacher will best complement each child's learning needs.
- We attempt to create an equitable balance between girls and boys.
- We consider the number of students in the class with special needs.
- We consider academic performance and social/ emotional needs
- We can not exceed class size limits
- We value parent input.

Combined-grade classes are not new or unusual in elementary schools. Throughout the province children will have the experience of being in a combined-grade class two or three times or more during their elementary school years. If your child is not in a combined class this year, it is likely that he/she will be in one next year.

Research indicates that combined classes can be beneficial for students of mixed ability and age. Placement in a combined class should not be looked upon with worry, but rather should be viewed as a normal and expected experience.

Dr. Joel Gajadharsingh, of the University of Saskatchewan, is the leading North American investigator of combined classes. The Canadian Education Association summarized his findings and concluded that children learn as much in combined classes. Their ability to learn and to get along with other people is as good as or better than students in single grades.

Research has shown that combined classes:

- Let students learn from one another
- Provide models for younger students
- Let older students see what they've already learned
- Provide a curriculum suited to each student
- Encourage students to work together
- Help students to become independent
- Teach students to respect one another

Achievement levels of these students are as good as and usually better than the achievement levels of students placed in single-age classes. Students in combined classes are not held back to the level of younger students, nor, are they expected to handle work beyond their ability. In every classroom there is a wide range of abilities. Children mature at different rates in various aspects. Teachers are aware of these individual differences and structure learning activities according to the needs of each learner.

In combined classes the range of abilities is not significantly different from that of a single grade class. Within the combined class, there will be children of both grade levels with similar levels of performance. Whether a child is gifted or needing assistance, each will be challenged towards excellence, as much in a combined class as he/she would be in a regular class.

Findings also show that children in classes where there is more than one age level learn to become more independent, responsible learners and develop a greater degree of social responsibility. Mature younger students are often in a more acceptable social setting in a combined class; likewise some older students may be more comfortable socially with younger students. Students in combined classes generally develop a greater sense of belonging, support and confidence.

Children learn continuously; their intellectual, social and personal development does not occur in compartmentalized, grade-specific segments. Teachers of students in combined classes, like those in single-grade classes, employ their skills and strategies so that each student is challenged at the level at which he/she can succeed. Our primary concern as advocates for children is to provide a stable, effective learning environment for all students in our care.



AT THE OFFICE

Office Hours

Regular secretarial office hours are 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. For your convenience, the answering machine stays on at all times, 24/7 so please feel free to leave a message if the telephone is not picked up immediately when you call.

Absence from School

Please call the school by 9 a.m. if your child will be late or not be attending school. If we have no information by 9:15 a.m. or 1 p.m. regarding a child who is absent, we will automatically call home. If a parent can't be reached, we will contact the alternate numbers provided. Students who arrive late must report to the office **before** going to their classroom.

Late arrivals are of great concern to staff. We encourage parents to ensure that students arrive at school on time. Promptness is important; it is difficult to keep up when lessons are missed.

Picking Up Students Early in the Day and Dropping Students Off

For everyone's safety, if you are taking your child out of class early, please report to the office. **Please keep in mind that children are to arrive after 8:45 a.m. in the morning as supervision is not available prior to 8:45 a.m.**

Custody/Guardianship Documents and Court Orders

Should parents wish the school to be aware of any legal documents pertaining to their children regarding custody, guardianship, and access, a copy of the relevant information should be delivered to the office marked "Confidential": Attention Principal.

Finances:

Parents who would like to postpone payment or require fees to be waived are asked to notify the office in person or by letter.



Peanut Butter and Nut Allergies

We have several students in our school with severe nut allergies. Students who bring peanut butter or nuts will be invited to eat their lunch in room 2 or the library with a friend under the supervision of our Noon Hour Supervisor. Please remind your child to wash their hands prior to and after eating.

Medical Alert Forms

All medical alert forms need to be reviewed and updated annually. The form is available on the District web site as well as at the school office. Please complete and submit the form as soon as possible. Medications must also be placed in a large plastic baggie with your child's name and division number clearly marked on the outside of the bag. Please note that staff may not administer medication to a child unless the appropriate medical form has been filled out and submitted to the office.

Road Safety/ School Parking Lot

Whether your children are pedestrians or passengers they should know how to keep themselves safe on the street. Teach them to be good pedestrians - wear visible clothing, pay attention to their surroundings, and follow the rules of the road. Teach them to be good passengers – don't be a distraction, buckle up and use a booster seat if appropriate. The best way to teach your children is through good modeling. Parking space in the school parking lot is limited and intended for school and district staff. **Please do not park in the parking spaces reserved for the daycare bus or staff.**

Walking to School

Children are encouraged to walk to and from school in groups or with a parent. **Students riding or wheeling to school on bicycles, roller blades, skateboards or scooters must dismount & walk from the sidewalk onto the school grounds. No riding these items on school grounds. Bikes may be locked to the bicycle rack attached to the north wall outside of the office.** Safety helmets must be worn when riding. Your child's safety is important please report any unsafe situations to the office.

Dogs at School

We encourage parents to leave their dogs at home during school operating hours. If your dog must accompany you to school please ensure it is on a leash and away from children as they may be afraid of dogs. Please be equipped with a "doggie bag" for any "surprises". Please avoid bringing "pets" into the building unless agreed upon by staff members.

Identification of Personal Property

Please ensure that your child's name is clearly marked on all personal articles such as gym strip, clothing, lunch box .etc. Use a Sharpie and label the tags on all clothing. This will greatly assist us in returning lost articles to students. The Lost and Found trolley is located in the front hall of the school. Please check it regularly for lost items. Unclaimed items are donated to charity groups at the end of the year.

PLEASE NOTE: Sports equipment, money and valuable articles such as expensive toys and personal electronics should not be brought to school unless specifically requested. Our school cannot assume responsibility for any missing articles.

Playground Thanks to the Glenwood PAC Playground Committee and our community our new adventure playground ***will be installed this year!***

