



## **BURNETT LEARNING TIME**

Throughout this school year, we have been collaborating as a staff about various innovative practices to support and enhance student learning. Since 2017, we have conducted student focus groups with over 250 students to seek feedback and reflections from our learners on various questions about their experience at Burnett Secondary School as well as their personal learning preferences. One common theme from our focus group discussions over the past three years is that students feel committed and engaged with their learning at Burnett; however, many students have struggled with balancing their academic and extra-curricular activities.

Beginning on Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, we will be implementing a 4-week pilot project around Burnett Learning Time. We believe this proactive approach will enhance student engagement and learning at Burnett. This 4-week pilot project will be reviewed by staff, students and we will also seek parent feedback at our March PAC meeting.

### ***What is Burnett Learning Time?***

- Every Tuesday, students will participate in 60 minutes of BURNETT LEARNING TIME. During this time, they will have flexibility and choice regarding what learning task they wish to focus on. Students will be supervised by their CLASSROOM teachers and will be able to ask for support as needed. This is “self-directed” time for students to learn.

### ***Why provide Burnett Learning Time?***

- One of our school goals is to increase student engagement in learning. We believe that one of our responsibilities is to teach our students how to take ownership of their own learning. This is a life skill that we need to teach our students before they graduate from secondary school.
- Our data has shown that, due to a wide variety of factors, many students struggle to complete and submit all assignments. Burnett Learning Time is intended to help students learn to more effectively manage their time and to provide students a safe, supervised and supportive classroom environment to work on any aspect of their learning.

### ***What can students do during their Burnett Learning Time?***

- Complete homework
- Complete assignments
- Prepare for an upcoming quiz / test
- Catch up on missed tests/quizzes/assignments
- Work on a project
- Engaged reading
- Re-write or re-organize notes
- Organize binder/notebook
- Many other options...

### ***Where will this Burnett Learning Time come from?***

- Currently, students are enrolled daily in four 79-minute classroom periods per day. Each Tuesday, we will adjust our bell schedule as follows:

Warning Bell	8:20
Block B	8:25 to 9:25
Block A	9:30 to 10:30
Break	10:30 to 10:45
<b>BURNETT LEARNING TIME</b>	<b>10:50 to 11:50</b>
Block D	11:55 to 12:55
Lunch	12:55 to 1:40
Block C	1:45 to 2:45

- Students will be supervised by their classroom teachers in the following rotation during our pilot program.

Date	BLT Blocks – students will go to these blocks for supervision
Tuesday, Feb 12 <sup>th</sup>	A
Tuesday, Feb 19 <sup>th</sup>	B
Tuesday, Feb 26 <sup>nd</sup>	C
Tuesday, March 5 <sup>th</sup>	D

- While some school wide initiatives might occur during Burnett Learning Time, teachers will not be teaching new course material. Teachers will be accessible to students for additional help and guidance on current and ongoing learning. As this is school instructional time, students are expected to be in their assigned classroom or designated learning space for the entire Burnett Learning Time period.

***Will school still begin at the same time each day?***

- Yes – the first class will still begin at 8:25am with a warning bell at 8:20am.

All students will be expected to participate in this Burnett Learning Time and attendance will be taken by classroom teachers. Students will be responsible for planning ahead and bringing the necessary learning materials with them to class in order to maximize the use of the 60 minutes of instructional time.

The implementation of this Burnett Learning Time has been intentionally planned to start with a strong and clear structure; once a routine has been established and students understand the expectations of this time, we will gradually provide greater flexibility and choice. Our hope is that we will be able to transition to a more flexible delivery model that will allow students to work with various teachers and subjects during this time.

**Expectations of students:**

- RESPECTFUL:
  - Value this time to work on self-directed learning activities.
  - Respect that this is learning time, not social time.
- RESPONSIBLE:
  - Manage your own time by working on assignments, getting extra support, reviewing, studying for tests, doing make-up tests, completing homework, and/or doing silent reading.
  - Be actively engaged and learning during this time.
- READY TO SUCCEED:
  - In advance of Burnett Learning Time, set a specific goal for what you will focus on.
  - Arrive to class on time for attendance.
  - Remain in the learning space for the duration of the period.

Following this 4-week pilot project, we will seek feedback from students, staff and parents on your reflections of Burnett Learning Time; this feedback will guide action for the future.

