

J.N. BURNETT SECONDARY

GRADE 8 PROGRAM PLANNING GUIDE 2021-2022



At J.N. Burnett we provide an enriching environment that respects, values, and celebrates diversity; promotes individual growth; and prepares the learner to be a well-rounded and responsible member of the larger community.

J.N. Burnett Secondary School
5011 Granville Avenue, Richmond BC, V7C 1E6
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Principal: Mr. D. Ratzlaff

Vice Principals:
Mr. L. Leung
Mrs. L. Collins

Counsellors:
Mr. R. McDonnell
Ms. M. Murad
Ms. M. Takada

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

J.N. Burnett Secondary is a comprehensive Grade 8-12 high school that offers a wide variety of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for all students. Our dedicated staff is committed to creating a learning environment that encourages students to set goals for themselves and strive towards individual excellence. We aim to ensure that each student's secondary school experience is meaningful and rewarding.

Our programs are designed to recognize and support the varied interests, abilities and educational needs of all students. We offer a Resource Program for students who need support with the regular academic program, Incentive courses which provide enrichment for highly motivated students, an English Language Learner Program, and a program for students with special needs which allows them to be integrated into classrooms as well as gain some work experience in the community. Our Grade 8s are taught by a team of teachers. The team works very closely together and becomes well acquainted with their students' individual strengths, interests, and needs. The teaming approach also provides opportunities for teachers to integrate curriculum, particularly in the Humanities, Science and Math. While the school is semestered, our Humanities program (a combination of English and Social Studies) runs all year long. We also offer an alternating Day 1/Day 2 Math 8/PE 8 program to help our Grade 8s transition into high school.

There are many extra-curricular activities in which students may get involved. During lunch, many students enjoy participating in various activities in our gym or special events sponsored by the Student Council. Students may also choose to participate in the many teams provided by our highly successful athletic program or join any one of the numerous clubs available. In addition, there are tennis courts adjacent to the school, several outdoor basketball courts, a lacrosse box, and a very well-equipped fitness centre. We also provide other off campus programs such as skiing, snowboarding and outdoor education.

Because we feel strongly that education is a cooperative endeavour involving both home and school, at J. N. Burnett we encourage and welcome parental involvement. We have an active Parent Advisory Council. We strongly believe that ongoing communication between parents/guardians and the school is beneficial to all. Parents may call the school any time to arrange a parent-teacher conference beyond those, which are regularly scheduled. Also, monthly newsletters and reminders are sent home to keep parents up to date on school activities. A formal report card is sent home in mid-November, mid-February, the end of April and the end of June. In addition, interim reports are sent out at least twice per year and whenever necessary. Phone contact between staff & parents is encouraged.

Our physical plant is very open and spacious and lends itself well to promote the sense of community that we strive for. We have well-designed, comfortable classrooms, numerous computer labs, two gyms, a theatre, and a well-equipped library. A large multipurpose area opens up to a spacious outdoor courtyard. This inviting environment adds to our belief that J. N. Burnett is a great place to learn!

Selecting courses to map out future directions is sometimes a difficult and confusing process. However, it is important that students take the time to think through choices carefully, and take advantage of the help that is available from school counsellors. In the intermediate years (8-9) the courses students select should reflect general interests and perhaps be seen as exploratory. As students move towards their graduation program (10-12), they will want to set more specific goals. The courses selected in the senior years should reflect this. The counsellors will help students understand which courses are required to graduate, which courses should be taken as prerequisites to the various post-secondary institutions or training programs, and which courses might be most useful to prepare for the workplace that students may be interested in.

To all students – the important thing to keep in mind throughout the course planning process is that each of you have strengths and areas of interest. Try to recognize your strengths and develop them through the courses you select. Remember that you are designing an important part of your future. Finally, don't be afraid to ask for help!

Mr. D. Ratzlaff
Principal

GRADE 8 COURSE SCHEDULE

Humanities 8
Math 8
Science 8
Physical Education 8
French 8
Home Economics/Technical Education 8

CHOOSE ONE FINE ARTS COURSE FROM THE FOLLOWING:
Art, Drama, Beginner or Concert Band, Choral Music, *or* Guitar

NOTE: ELL students must also refer to page 5

GRADE 8 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CORE SUBJECTS

HUMANITIES 8

This linear course contains English and Social Studies content.

The course aims to develop students' listening, speaking, reading and writing abilities. Teachers select from a range of literature and texts. These are often linked thematically to the Social Studies topics of world geography, Middle Ages, Renaissance and Exploration.

HUMANITIES 8 INCENTIVE

SELECTION PROCESS: Enrollment is limited. In general, only students who have earned A or B marks in previous Language Arts and Social Studies courses should apply. The Humanities screening test consists of both written and oral components; teacher recommendations are also considered.

This linear course contains English and Social Studies content.

This program enriches the regular curriculum and is intended to elicit higher-level skills. Incentive Humanities involves teaching strategies that enhance students' abilities to read extensively, think analytically and critically, speak and write fluently, use research resources effectively and work independently.

MATHEMATICS 8

The purpose of Math 8 is to expose students to many new aspects of the subject while reviewing and improving their arithmetic skills with respect to whole numbers, decimals, fractions, percentages and related word problems. New and challenging work will be offered in the areas of problem solving, integers and geometry.

MATHEMATICS 8 INCENTIVE

SELECTION PROCESS: Enrollment is limited. The accelerated course is designed for students with exceptional abilities in core elementary math topics, problem solving, and a strong interest and work ethic in mathematics. This course covers the Math 8 and Math 9 curricula in one year. It will focus on the same math skills and processes as the regular Math 8 and Math 9 courses. Students wishing to be selected for this course must have a confidential course recommendation from their grade 7 teacher and write the screening assessment test on core math skills and problem solving. Students will be chosen on the basis of their performance on the screening assessment test as well as their teacher's recommendation. Students who are successful in this course will obtain credit for Math 8 and Math 9 and proceed to one of the Math 10 courses the following year.

SCIENCE 8

This course is organized to allow students to develop positive science attitudes, to develop the skills and processes of science, to increase knowledge and to develop creative and critical thinking skills. Topics covered include changes in matter, energy, life functions, environment and ecology, resource management and geological processes.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8

The secondary program will review and refine in a progressive manner, the basic movement skills developed through the elementary physical education program. It will expose students to broad and diversified physical activities. The emphasis on the development of recreationally oriented activities and lifetime sports increases from Grade 8 to Grade 12. The course content is divided into five major activity categories that were selected to provide a balance between the more traditional approach to physical education and the emerging emphasis on leisure-oriented physical activities. The aim of the Burnett Physical Education program is to provide students with the awareness, knowledge, understanding, attitudes, abilities and skills required to consciously maintain physical health throughout life.

FRENCH 8

The aim is to give students the ability and confidence to speak and write basic French. *Entre Amis* is a communicative-experiential approach to second language learning, which encourages true communication and personal development. The language is used in a context that is meaningful to the student. Grammar and vocabulary are not learned in isolation and culture is integral to the themes of the units.

HOME ECONOMICS 8

Home Economics encourages the acquisition of skills for life-long learning. Students are encouraged to develop social competencies and practical skills related to individual, family, community and global needs. A compulsory Grade 8 course allows students many opportunities to develop these skills and competencies through the basic components of Clothing and Textiles and Foods and Nutrition. This introduction will also allow students to make wiser choices in future course selection. The course is made up of the following sections:

- Foods and Nutrition: An introduction to the basic principles of food preparation and the planning of nutritious and attractive snacks and meals.
- Clothing and Textiles: An introduction in the use of the sewing machine and sewing equipment and supplies. A simple useful project is constructed.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION 8

A compulsory Grade 8 course that introduces students to the basic skills in woodwork, metalwork, electricity and drafting. This introduction will allow students to make wiser choices in future course selection. The course is made up of the following sections:

- Woodworking: An introduction to the basic hand tools, simple finishes and a variety of wood. Simple useful projects are constructed by the students.
- Electricity: An introduction to basic skills such as reading schematic diagrams, soldering techniques, the breadboard construction of an electronic project and the completion of the project as a printed circuit.
- Metalwork: An introduction to basic skills such as problem solving, measurement, cutting, filing and drilling. A variety of materials are used as well.
- Drafting: An introduction to the fundamentals of drafting which is the language of the engineer, technician, and skilled worker. Learning to draw and read drawings are communications skills. This includes an introduction to Computer Drafting.

The aim of this course is to assist the student in making wiser choices in future course selections in this area.

FINE ARTS COURSES

ART 8: FOUNDATIONS IN ART

This course is designed for the complete beginner as well as the student who would like to learn more about drawing, painting, and sculpture. Personalize your own sketchbook cover, build your own giant paper mache objects, create unique sculptures out of wire, and explore different techniques of painting and printmaking. Special emphasis is placed on personal development of imagery. Focus is on studio work. The student is required to keep a sketchbook and to use it to record the development of personal imagery.

DRAMA 8

Drama 8 is an active participatory course that provides students opportunities to explore their own creativity and story-telling potential. Topics include: trust, concentration, improvisation, observation, sense awareness, imagination, tableau, readers theatre, mime, clowning and literature-based story telling. This course focuses on both individual and group work. Many acting “basics” are explored through games. Students will attend professional productions to develop their critical abilities.

MUSIC

The Burnett Music program offers opportunities for the complete beginner to the most serious advance students – styles ranging from classical to jazz with much in between. Music offers a unique avenue for the pursuit of career enhancing skills and excellence not found in other courses. The value of taking music is much more than appreciation for just music; it is, in every way, a rehearsal for real life in any career. Leadership, responsibility, taking risks, communication and working for group success are just a few of the career skills learned here.

Opportunities for all players and singers can be found in band, and choir courses. Piano players should note that they are needed in choir and band. Here at Burnett, we are also rapidly moving into the next century – a wide array of advanced synthesizer and computer composition and performance opportunities are available in all music courses.

Beginner's Concert Band 8

No previous band experience is necessary. Also, no decision as to the type of instrument is needed at this time. It is a fun course for all. This course is for students who are new to concert band, or who have been away from the program for some time and wish to return. This course is also appropriate for students who wish to try a completely new instrument and need to start their learning at the very beginning. Upon completion of this course, students will usually be able to enroll in Junior concert band.

Intermediate Concert Band

One year of previous band experience is required or by teacher permission.

Choral Music 8

Mixed Voice Vocal Ensemble - Previous music training is not essential, as skills including singing, breath control and note reading will be developed and reviewed. Students of all ability levels will be together in one class. Many styles of music will be sung, including popular, classical/folk, rock, Broadway and jazz. There is an emphasis on singing in small groups, as well as singing within the large ensemble. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and concerts. Additionally, students with instrumental skills (piano, guitar, and sometimes other band instruments) will be called upon to share their skills by accompanying the singers at different times during the course.

Guitar 8

This *introductory* guitar course is for students with little or no experience on guitar. Course content includes guitar structure, tuning the guitar, basic chords, note reading, tablature reading and strumming techniques. *Upon successful completion of the basic guitar book learned during class instruction*, the student may pursue a desired style such as jazz, folk, blues, rock or classical. Students progress at their own rate on their self-selected independent studies and will be encouraged to develop self-discipline and self-motivation in class. Students will regularly perform for each other within the class and may be invited to perform in concerts. Students are strongly encouraged to provide their own guitar (very few are available from the school).

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

English Language Learner

This program is for students for whom English is not a first language. Students are integrated into regular programs, both for compulsory and elective courses, as their proficiency in English increases:

Level 1 (3 blocks ELL)	ELL 1	ELL 1	<u>Elective Choices:</u> Art, Beg. Band, Band, Choral Music, or Guitar
	ELL 1	Elective	
	Math 8	PHE 8	
	Home Ec/Tech Ed 8	Elective	

Level 2 (3 blocks ELL)	ELL 2	ELL 2	<u>Elective Choices:</u> Art, Beg. Band, Band, Choral Music, or Guitar
	ELL 2	Home Ec/Tech Ed 8	
	PHE 8	Math 8	
	Elective	Elective	

Level 3 (2 blocks ELL)	ELL-3	ELL-3	<u>Elective Choices:</u> Art, Beg. Band, Band, Choral Music, or Guitar Plus Drama
	Science 8	French 8	
	PHE 8	Math 8	
	Home Ec/Tech Ed 8	Elective	

Level 4 (1 block ELL)	ELL-4	Humanities 8	<u>Elective Choices:</u> Art, Beg. Band, Band, Choral Music, or Guitar Plus Drama
	PHE 8	Math 8	
	Science 8	French 8	
	Elective	Elective	

Learning Services

This program serves students who have exceptional learning needs in the academic areas that may or may not be impacted by social/emotional needs. Placement for learning services will be based on concerns from teachers, administrators, counsellors, parents/guardians, and students leading to a referral to the Learning Services Department for further review.

Services provided vary according to individual student needs and may include one or more of the following:

- Direct assistance in the regular classroom
- Support block(s) to provide strategies for organization, time management, goal setting, studying, and achieving in regular courses
- Support block(s) to assist in strengthening basic enabling skills in reading, writing, speaking, arithmetic and life skills
- Work experience

Incentive Courses (offered in Grades 8-11)

Consistent with the school's commitment to increase instructional effectiveness, these courses help students of above average talent to discover their potential ability. The emphasis will be on enrichment as we seek to extend students to their intellectual limits through challenging activities. The courses involve teaching and learning styles that enhance a student's ability to read extensively, think analytically and critically, speak and write fluently, use research resources effectively and work independently. Applicants are assessed by each department.

PERSONAL STUDENT PLANNING GUIDE TO GRADUATION

Grade 8 Program	Grade 9 Program	Grade 10 Program	Grade 11 Program	Grade 12 Program
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE (Fine Arts)	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE
Home Ec/Tech Ed 8	ELECTIVE (Tech Ed.)	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE
French 8	ELECTIVE	Career Life Education	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE
Physical Education 8	Physical Education 9	Physical Education 10	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE
Science 8	Science 9	Science 10	A Science 11 Course	ELECTIVE
Mathematics 8	Mathematics 9	Mathematics 10	A Mathematics 11 Course	ELECTIVE
Humanities 8	Social Studies 9	Social Studies 10	Social Studies 12 or ELECTIVE	Social Studies 12 or ELECTIVE
Humanities 8	English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
<i>Choose 1 Elective</i>	<i>Choose 3 Electives</i>	<i>Choose 3 Electives</i>	<i>Choose 4 Electives</i>	<i>Choose 7 Electives</i>

INCENTIVE 8 APPLICATION - ASSESSMENTS

Students wishing to apply for Incentive Courses for Grade 8 will be assessed for appropriate placement. Not all students who apply will be selected to the incentive class as many more students apply than we have space for. We will be having only one class of 29 students in each Incentive Course.

HUMANITIES 8 INCENTIVE – students will write an in-person assessment. Student acceptance into the course will be based on an assessment and grade 7 teacher recommendation.

HUMANITIES 8 INCENTIVE – ASSESSMENT
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021
BURNETT HUMANITIES WING
(bring pencil and pen)
3:30 – 4:15pm

MATHEMATICS 8/9 ACCELERATED – students will write an assessment. Please note the date assigned to individual schools and only register for your date (as we cannot cross-cohorts).

Student acceptance into the course will be based on an assessment and grade 7 teacher recommendation.

MATHEMATICS 8/9 ACCELERATED – ASSESSMENT
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021
Blair
Spul'u'kwuks

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021
Thompson
McKay

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021
Grauer
Independent Schools

ALL ASSESSMENTS WILL BE IN THE BURNETT MATH WING
3:30 – 5:00pm
(Bring pencils and eraser. Calculators are not permitted.)

J.N. BURNETT SECONDARY

PROGRAM PLANNING TIMELINE 2021

JANUARY 26 – 28	Burnett counsellors' visit to elementary schools for course planning
JANUARY 28	Grade 7 parent night via Zoom Webinar at 7:00 pm (see school website for Zoom link)
FEBRUARY 26	Deadline for submission of transfer application form for students who don't live in the Burnett catchment area but wish to attend Burnett
FEBRUARY 11	ALL PROGRAM PLANNING FORMS DUE TO YOUR SCHOOL. These forms will be picked up by Burnett school on February 12.
FEBRUARY 22-24	Incentive Math 8 assessment: 3:30pm at Burnett (Math Wing). Please check the information on the previous page for your school's assigned date.
MARCH 2	Incentive Humanities 8 assessment: 3:30pm at Burnett (Humanities Wing)
AUGUST (LAST WEEK)	Mailout to families with school startup dates and information

