
FORMER BURNSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO OPEN AS BURNSIDE EDUCATION CENTRE

Thursday, September 29, 2016

VICTORIA, BC – The Board of Education has approved the opening of the former Burnside Elementary School as the Burnside Education Centre. Once renovations are completed the building will provide improved classroom and programming space in the 2017-2018 school year for the majority of students and teachers currently located at the SJ Willis Education Centre.

The opening of the building will facilitate the use of SJ Willis as transition space for secondary schools undergoing seismic upgrades.

“The Burnside Education Centre will offer improved classrooms and space to support our continuing education and alternative education students,” noted Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Board Chair for the Greater Victoria School District. “The Board is also very pleased to increase investments in facilities across the District that will benefit all students and staff.”

Built in 1912 and located at 3130 Jutland Road, the Burnside Elementary School was closed in 2006 due to declining enrollment and has been leased to the Burnside Gorge Community Association for community programs since that time. All community programs have been relocated to other locations, many within other school district facilities. Continuing education for adult learners, distributed learning, and alternative education programs will be offered at the Burnside Education Centre.

The Five Year Capital Plan considered by the Board on Monday night highlights the District’s seismic upgrading plan outlining the prioritized order of schools proposed for seismic upgrading over the next seven to ten years. The next five schools, in priority, are Campus View Elementary School, Victoria High School, Cedar Hill Middle School, Braefoot Elementary School and Shoreline Community School.

In addition, \$500,000 was earmarked for learning resources to support the new provincial education curriculum currently being implemented in kindergarten to grade nine, and \$441,000 for a variety of improvement projects across District facilities, including upgrading high school shops and improving safety in science labs, and repairing sports fields.

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For media inquiries, please contact:

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