



Burlington Central High School

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September 5, 2025

Welcome to the 2025-2026 School Year!

Hello BCS Students & Families,

It's been an outstanding first week of school at Central! We had tons of energy on Wednesday morning with our Intermediate students meeting their teachers, and our Link Crew student leaders providing awesome activities for our grade 9s throughout the school. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate "Back to School" at our BBQ. It was a gorgeous day to have a burger or hot dog and catch up with friends after the summer! We capped the week off this afternoon with a fantastic Intermediate assembly full of fun and games.

If you are able, we'd be grateful to families who can contribute to Central's Student Engagement Fee. This fee is voluntary, but the funds raised allow us to provide opportunities like a free BBQ (September and June) and to fund student-related programs, clubs, and events. To ensure these opportunities continue, we ask for your optional support of \$20.00, payable through SchoolCashOnline.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Pizza Days are Back! | Grades 7 & 8 ~ *Deadline to order is September 18*

Grades 7 & 8 students are invited to purchase a *13-day pizza lunch package* being offered weekly during second break on Wednesdays (beginning September 24 and ending on December 17). The deadline to order is midnight on Thursday, September 18. All proceeds will support field trips, clubs, and activities at Burlington Central Elementary. All 13 weeks must be pre-ordered and paid through [School Cash Online](#).

Aspen Parent/Family Portal ~ Grades 7 to 12

Parents/guardians can use the [Parent/Family Portal](#) to view current student demographic data, attendance, schedules, and published report cards for their students. Students in grades 9 to 12 also have access to the Aspen Student Portal, where they may access this information for themselves.

To [activate your account](#), you must have a valid email address on file with us. The primary email address on file at your child's school (the one that you use for SchoolMessenger) is the email address that you will use to activate and log in. Some families may have created an Aspen account when registering their child for school. If you have already created an Aspen account, you do not need to activate a new one. If you did not create an Aspen account when registering your child for school, you can activate your account by using the email address on file at your child's school.

Grade 7 & 8 Open House | September 25

On Thursday, September 25, from 6 to 7:30 pm, grades 7 and 8 families are invited to an Open House to tour the school and learn more about us!

Grade 12 Post Secondary Information Assembly ~ September 23 & 25

On September 23, during period 4, grade 12 students will attend a post-secondary information assembly in the auditorium. Parents/guardians are invited to attend a post-secondary information session on Thursday, **September 25th at 6:30 p.m.** in the theatre.

Terry Fox School Fundraiser | September 26 ~ Grades 7 to 12

In 1980, Terry Fox began his [Marathon of Hope](#). In continuation of his legacy of courage, humility, determination, and perseverance, our 2025 Terry Fox School Fundraiser is taking place on Friday, September 26. Families, staff, and community members are invited to donate directly through our school's [Terry Fox school webpage](#). Please do not send cash to school. Who was Terry Fox? Learn more [here](#). On September 26, wear #blueandgold!

Optional Hearing & Vision Screening | Grades 7 & 8 ~ September 29

On Monday, September 29, the [School Screening Association](#) will visit Burlington Central to host their hearing and vision clinic for grades 7 and 8 students. The screening costs **\$25 per student** and is completely optional. The deadline to [register](#) for the screening clinic is September 25, and payment must be made online through their online registration process. Please do not send cash to school.

Course Timetable Changes ~ Grades 9 to 12

Students who wish to request a change to a course(s) are required to book an appointment with their Guidance Counsellor. A parent/guardian permission form must accompany all [timetable change requests](#). Requests without a permission form will not be processed. Booking an appointment with a Guidance Counsellor is available throughout the school year using the following link:

- [Guidance Appointment Booking](#)
- Students with last names beginning with A-L, please book with [Mrs. Victorino](#).
- Students with last names beginning with M-Z, please book with [Mr. Moran](#).
- International Baccalaureate Programme & Accelerated Learning Programme students, please email Mrs. Bright directly at brightj@hdsb.ca.

Guidance counsellors are unable to respond to timetable change requests via email at this time. For all other inquiries, please contact Ms. Wilson in Student Services at 905-634-7768 ext. 229 or wilsonmeg2@hdsb.ca.

Purchase the 2025-2026 Yearbook Now ~ Grades 7 to 12

The 2025-2026 school yearbook is now available to purchase through [SchoolCashOnline](#) at \$50 per copy. The deadline to purchase is February 12, 2026. After this date, no further ordering will be available. All copies must be pre-ordered. Distribution will be in June 2026.

Photo Days, ID Cards, Photo Packages ~ Grades 7 to 12

All students are required to have their photo taken for their Student ID card. The option to purchase photo packages will be available. Photo dates are as follows:

- Grades 7 to 9*: Wednesday, September 10
- Grades 10 to 12: Thursday, September 11

*Depending on timing, some grade 10 students may have their photo taken on September 10.

School Council Meeting ~ September 29

The first BCS School Council meeting of the 2025/26 school year will take place on **Monday, September 29 at 7:30 PM**. Meetings are held five times per year, on the last Monday of every other month, with both in-person and [virtual attendance](#) options available. School Council plays a vital role in supporting student learning and well-being. Participation helps strengthen the partnership between families, educators, and the broader community, contributing to a high-quality, accountable education system. Nominations for voting members are due before the first meeting. All nominees must attend the meeting to confirm positions. **Executive roles require regular attendance.** Learn more about responsibilities, nomination forms, and meeting details by emailing bchscouncil1922@gmail.com. You can complete the Self Nomination Form [HERE](#).

Bell to Bell No Cell ~ Grades 7 to 12

In accordance with the *Education Act*, Policy/Program Memorandum 128 requires that “grades 7 to 12 students’ personal mobile devices are stored out of view and powered off or set to silent mode during instructional time.” As part of our policy, students will first be asked to put their phones away. If students do not comply, staff may ask the students to put their phones in a designated storage area. Teachers will contact home, and progressive discipline may occur. Please encourage your student to store their personal mobile device in their locker for the entire school day.

BCS is a Vape-Free Environment

The HDSB has a strict anti-vaping policy in all schools. Parents/guardians are immediately informed, and any vaping-related products in the student's possession are confiscated. The HDSB has existing procedures in place to support the enforcement related to alcohol, tobacco, electronic cigarettes, recreational cannabis, and illegal drugs.

Students and families are encouraged to review the [Ontario Ministry of Education - Code of Conduct](#) and the [HDSB Code of Conduct](#).

BCS Daily Schedule ~ Grades 7 to 12

For your reference, bell times and daily periods are [here](#).

HDSB 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

The HDSB 2025-2026 school year calendar is available [here](#).

BCHS Student Engagement Fee ~ Grades 9 to 12

The Student Engagement Fee is a voluntary and integral part of providing meaningful opportunities for our secondary students at Central. In previous years, these fees enabled us to fund student-related programs, clubs, and events. To ensure these opportunities continue, we ask for your optional support of \$20.00, payable through [SchoolCashOnline](#).

Absence Reporting

Regular attendance and arriving on time are crucial for our students' academic success and well-being. To avoid the risk of students falling behind in their studies, **we encourage families to schedule appointments or time off outside of school hours whenever possible.**

- **Absences of 3 days or less** must be reported through our automated attendance system: [School Messenger](#) / 1-877-409-6310 (toll-free).
- **Absences greater than 3 days but less than 15 (excluding illness)** require an [Extended Absence Form](#) to be completed and signed by a parent/guardian.
- **Absences of more than 15 days:** please contact the school.

Follow BCS



Your BCS Admin Team,

Trish Clark
Principal

Torrey Sleeman
Vice Principal,
Grades 7 & 8

Jim Mackenzie
Vice Principal,
Grades 9 to 12