

### Philosophy



The BC School for the Deaf recognizes both American Sign Language and English as languages of instruction for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students.

The school believes that all students:

- ► Have the right to learn and be respected in a positive school environment
- Learn best in an environment that provides clear and effective communication
- Have access to a wide variety of programs and services
- Develop potential through an exposure to role models in the Deaf community
- Have the right to be themselves as Deaf/HH individuals

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# American Sign Language

- Provide formal ASL instruction for all students
- Provide ASL tutoring
- Provide ASL support in classrooms
- Provide ASL support for families
- Provide ASL events Flying Hands Competition



# Does bilingualism cause language confusion?



Bilingual language acquisition is as effortless, efficient, and successful as monolingual acquisition.

In fact, VL2 Co-Principal Investigator Dr. Laura-Ann Petitto states, "Being exposed to two languages from birth—and in particular, being exposed to assigned and spoken language from birth—does not cause a child to be language delayed and confused." Start right away!

Currently, Deaf children and youth continue to suffer from the deprivation of accessible bilingual, ASL and English and early education opportunities...

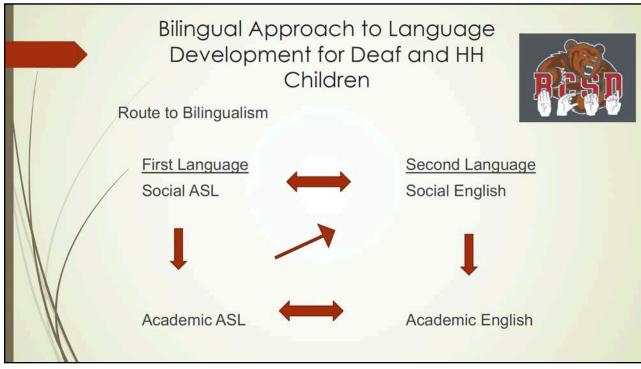
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# Common Order of Language Acquisition

- BICS: Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills
  - Social Language 3-5 years
- CALP: Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency
  - Academics Language 5-7 years







### **Elementary Modernized Curriculum**

BCSD recognizes the critical role it plays in the Deaf community; we strive to develop community builders of the future.

- We achieve this through implementing of British Columbia's redesigned curriculum for K-7 in a learner focused environment:
  - Small Classes
  - Personalized Learning
  - Integration of Deaf Studies
  - Bilingual Instruction
  - Leadership Skills Development
  - Ongoing focus on core competencies



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### **BCSD Secondary**







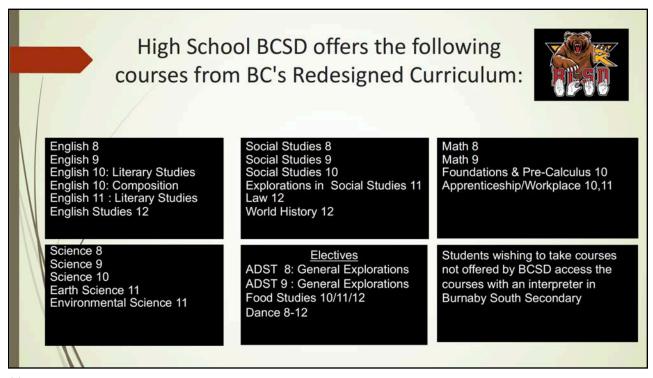
### **American Sign Language**

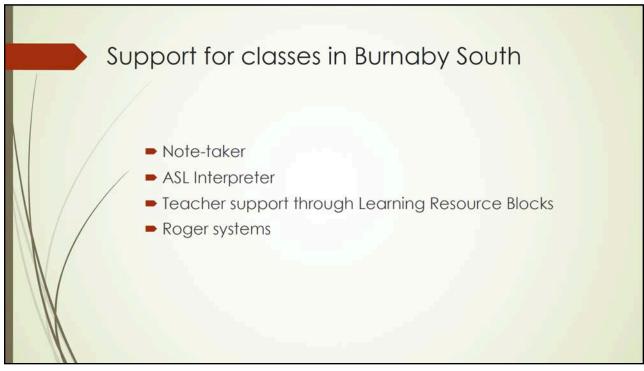
Opportunity to develop a sense of identity through a connection with Deaf peers and Staff

- •Language of Instruction = ASL
- ·Class size average of 6
- •ASL required course gr 8-12

## Spoken English ( Provincial Oral Program)

- Opportunity to develop a sense of identity through a connection with Hard of Hearing & Deaf peers and Staff
- Language of Instruction = Spoken English
- Class size average of 4
- Opportunity to take ASL courses gr 9-12

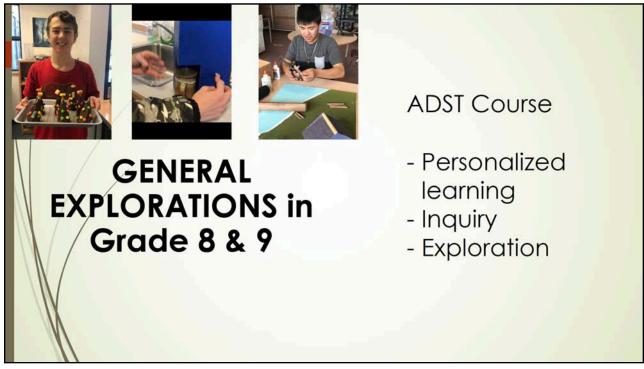


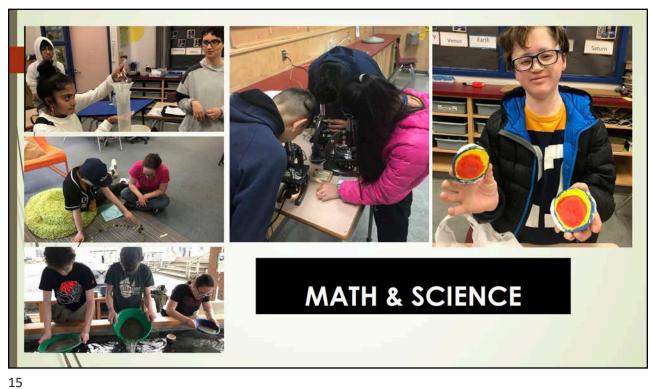


### Interpreting Services

- 12 interpreters on-site
- Interpreting services are available for mainstream classes, lunch hour clubs, before and after school athletics, homework club, work experience and any other school activities.
- Students book interpreters

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British Columbia
Deaf Education Committee

# Purpose Determine whether BCSD is the appropriate school Determine eligibility for entrance into BCSD Review and provide consultation on a student's placement and educational needs Process/Procedures Receives referral from the home school district Gathers all required information Review student's application Informs the concerned parties – eligible or ineligible

BCDEC

Eligibility Criteria

Designation as Deaf or Hard of Hearing Student

Current enrolment in BC school or residence

Evidence of academically, socially, behaviorally and placement

Referral and Appeal Process

Checklist of Steps

Process for an Appeal

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