Have your say on the future of Surrey Schools

Surrey Schools is asking the public for views on the district’s budget, school building plans and choice programs.

Choice programs
At the start of 2015, Surrey Schools emailed parents asking them for their views on the future of choice programs like French Immersion and Traditional. The district is using an online public consultation tool called PlaceSpeak as a key part of the choice program review. The consultation has been very successful with many comments received through PlaceSpeak, as well as at parent forums.

There’s still time for you to share your views regarding choice programs. Visit www.placespeak.com/surreyschools to learn more about choice programs and comment.

School capital plans
An important factor in discussions around the district’s choice programs is the resources available to the district to accommodate growth and demands.

The City of Surrey and Surrey Schools are popular places to be as many schools in the district continue to be overcapacity. Housing development in Surrey, the increasing popularity of choice programs like Montessori, French Immersion and Intensive Fine Arts, and provincial government funding are among the factors that affect decisions about when and where new schools can be pursued. There are resources available on PlaceSpeak regarding district capital challenges to support informed views.

Budget
Each January and February, the Surrey Board of Education invites ideas, questions and suggestions regarding board budget priorities. Helpful information about the budget is available on the district website. Comments can be submitted by email to budget@surreyschools.ca before 4 p.m. on February 27, 2015, or you can also write to secretary-treasurer Wayne Noye, at School District No.36, 14033 92 Ave. Surrey, B.C.

“ASK THE EXPERTS”: Why is 7 the magical age to see an Orthodontist?

Each child is unique. Some children require treatment earlier than others. It really depends on what the orthodontic problem is. A check up with an orthodontist is really helpful. Orthodontic specialists are trained to monitor facial, jaw, and dental growth and development. It is strongly recommended that all children be screened by an orthodontist by age 7. Proactive orthodontics promotes healthy and positive growth and can make future treatment much easier for your child. Early treatment for young children is often done to correct issues in that are much more difficult to treat at a later age. A few common issues we see in young children are crossbites, lack of space, missing teeth, extra teeth, and upper and lower jaws which grow at different rates. These are all issues that can compromise the function and esthetics of one’s bite. The timing of treatment is really important and is best determined by an orthodontic specialist. In many circumstances, growth can really help with treatment. That is why we monitor children from a young age. We want to catch them at the perfect time to ensure that treatment is as simple as possible!

The average age to wear full braces is about 12 years. This is when children have all of their permanent teeth and are really growing. Don’t be fooled by straight teeth. It is still important to make sure that no other issues are going on with your child’s teeth and jaws.

At South Surrey Smiles, we believe in proactive orthodontics. This is why we are offering a special gift to you—free advice. We will be happy to educate you and your child about their dental health, growth pattern, and the function of your child’s teeth. At this appointment we will advise you about the ideal treatment timing.

If you have a 7 year old, Call South Surrey Smiles for your proactive consultation at 604-628-0126 No Charge!

We make Orthodontics fun and comfortable! The kids can play on iPads while the parents sip on specialty lattes! We look forward to meeting your family!
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48 WEEK CERTIFICATE
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Gain specialized skills with this 2 year diploma program. Be prepared to work with infants, toddlers, and special needs children in supported childcare settings. Open up even more career options with in-demand and specialized training.

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To learn more scan with Layar
A new early learning program is being launched by Surrey Schools’ Community-Schools Partnership on February 18. The drop-in program, called Early Learning for Families, will focus on parent engagement, literacy, community connections and fun. The program connects families to community resources and supports healthy childhood development.

Sessions will be held at City Central Shopping Centre (by the elevator outside Winners) between 10 a.m. and noon on the first and third Wednesday of each month during the school year.
Performance reaches new heights

Surrey Schools recorded across the board improvements as the proportion of students graduating within six years of starting high school reached new heights.

The district’s “completion rate” rose to 88.8 per cent in 2013-14, up 2.7 per cent from the previous record high in 2012-13. For comparison, across British Columbia as a whole, the six-year completion rate rose 0.6 per cent to 84.2 per cent.

Surrey students out-performed the provincial average six-year completion rate by more than four per cent in all categories, except aboriginal, where the district was just 0.6 per cent behind, and special needs, where the gap was 1.6 per cent.

A significant rise in the success rate of aboriginal students helped drive the improvement in completion rates in Surrey. In 2013-14, when the district renewed its Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement, the rate for aboriginal students was 61 per cent, up from 48.2 per cent in 2012-13.

“A second successive year of significant improvements in our six-year completion rate for all students is a testament to all the hard work put in by students and staff in Surrey Schools,” says Shawn Wilson, chairperson of the Surrey Board of Education.

“The board is pleased to see improvement in the graduation results for aboriginal students and hopes to see that continue as there is still a long way to go.”

The proportion of female students in Surrey graduating within six years topped 90 per cent (91.4 per cent) for the first time, but the boys closed the gap between the sexes slightly with 86.4 per cent completing within six-years. That 2.8 per cent increase for boys in Surrey compares to a 0.2 per cent increase in the provincial average for boys to 82.1 per cent.

The English Language Learning (ELL) completion rate rose 2.5 per cent to 92.6 per cent and for students with special needs it rose 1.4 per cent to 60.6 per cent.

The overall graduation rate (the proportion of Grade 12 students who achieve a Dogwood Certificate of Graduation) was 92 per cent. This rate has remained steady between 91 and 93 per cent over the past five years.

A full breakdown of the six-year completion and Grade 12 graduation rates for 2013-14 is available on the B.C. Ministry of Education website.

### Completion Rates 2013-14 (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>B.C.</th>
<th>Surrey</th>
<th>% change in Surrey from 2012-2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>All students</td>
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<td>88.8</td>
<td>+2.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>86.4</td>
<td>91.4</td>
<td>+2.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>86.4</td>
<td>+2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELL</td>
<td>86.6</td>
<td>92.6</td>
<td>+2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special needs</td>
<td>62.2</td>
<td>60.6</td>
<td>+1.4</td>
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### Six year completion rate %

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Surrey All</th>
<th>Surrey Female</th>
<th>Surrey Male</th>
<th>B.C. All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>77.4</td>
<td>83.5</td>
<td>77.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>84.2</td>
<td>89.3</td>
<td>83.7</td>
<td>84.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>88.8</td>
<td>91.4</td>
<td>86.4</td>
<td>88.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A program developed by a Surrey Schools teacher to improve children's health and teach leadership skills has been named a national challenge winner.

FitKid Coach, which trains teachers and students to become fitness ambassadors, was the brainchild of helping teacher Glenn Young. The program was one of 13 Canadian initiatives – one from each province and territory – declared a winner of the Play Exchange's Active at School Challenge. Federal health minister Rona Ambrose announced the winners, which will each receive $3,000 to help implement their ideas in schools.

Through FitKid Coach, the student fitness ambassadors lead classmates through a specifically designed physical activity circuit. The ambassadors help the students develop healthy habits and positive attitudes about fitness.

Over the past eight years, the FitKid Coach program has expanded to 25 Surrey schools, building engaged communities where a culture of physical activity is valued, leadership skills are learned and transferable athletic skills are developed.
SD36 Thanks

Vancity
- Dozens of students will be able to pursue floral design thanks to a $6,000 community project grant from Vancity to the Career Education department’s Floral Design program. Vancity has kindly supported this program since 2009. The program offers skills training and pathways to employment for selected secondary students. The specialized program, which runs over three weeks in April at Kwalten Polytechnic University, will teach 15 students the principles and elements of floral design, purchasing policies, retail service and entrepreneurship.

Coast Capital Savings
- Coast Capital Savings has donated $3,000 to allow 15 students to complete a traffic flagging course specialization and for an additional 15 students to complete forklift, first aid and food safety training to prepare them for employment in a variety of retail industries. Students in both streams will complete units including customer service, cash handling, interviewing and resume building. Coast Capital Savings also donated $3,000 to elementary out of school programs where vulnerable students have opportunities to learn a variety of new skills and try a wide array of extracurricular sports, arts and science activities after school.

Fuel Your School
- Surrey teachers have purchased iPads, iPods, Little Bits robotics kits, art supplies, books, music instruments, aquariums and microscopes for a wide variety of innovative programs thanks to Chevron and the My Class Needs Foundation. They have provided $200,000 in equipment and supplies to district teachers through Chevron’s Fuel Your School program. Teachers were able to apply to My Class Needs Foundation for supplies or equipment they would use for any science, technology, engineering or math-related projects or classroom work. More than 170 projects were funded.

Chevron
- Chevron has donated $25,000 to the Community-Schools Partnership department’s ExplorAction program. This program, held on weekends and during spring break, offers space science and hockey instruction to boys aged 8-11 and environmental science, dance and tennis instruction to girls aged 8-11.

Biennale
- A dozen Surrey schools are participating in Vancouver Biennale’s BIG IDEAS project thanks to an $8,000 donation from the organization to run a multi-school artist-in-residence program. Eight elementary schools, including one district Intensive Fine Arts program school and one French Immersion program school, plus four secondary schools are taking part. Each school will work with one professional artist over several months to explore the same BIG IDEAS: farming and food systems, local and global actions and impacts. Artists and students will explore these themes through drama, visual arts, music and dance. Each class will present their work at the Biennale Final Celebration at the Bell Performing Arts Centre on April 29 in performances at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Telus
- A $15,000 Telus donation will enable students at two Surrey elementary schools to learn more about career paths and provide them with skills for more immediate employment like babysitting or retail service. Through a series of field trips, hands on activities, visits from people working in different industries and mentorship interactions, students will get an idea of where their interests may lay, the wide range of options available to think about, possible pathways to a positive future and how to adapt and attain future goals.

Concord Pacific
- Concord Pacific awarded $11,000 to elementary schools around Central City for participating in a gingerbread building competition during December 2014. The schools that took part were K.B. Woodward, Prince Charles, Senator Reid, James Ardiel, Bridgeview, A.H.P. Matthews, Cougar Creek and Old Yale Road. Each school received $1,000 for participating. Senator Reid received an additional $2,000 for winning first place in the competition, while James Ardiel received an extra $1,000 for second place.
Home town attraction for Surrey students

Nearly three-quarters of all Surrey Schools students who graduate go on to attend a post-secondary institution within four years.

Surrey-based Kwantlen Polytechnic University is the most popular destination, attracting 41 per cent of graduate students who go on to post-secondary education in British Columbia. Simon Fraser University, which also has a campus in Surrey, is the next most popular location, attracting 14 per cent, while the University of British Columbia is the destination of choice for 11 per cent.

The data is included in the superintendent’s annual report on student achievement to the Surrey Board of Education. The report focused on post-secondary transition, children in care, and trades and exploration because summer job action had limited the amount of data available this year.

Trades and exploration allows students to earn money while gaining valuable employment skills through the Accelerated Credit Enrolment in Industry Training (ACE IT) program. In Surrey, the program now includes more than fifteen trades, including automotive, baking, hairdressing, plumbing and welding.

Students in the ACE IT program can find traditional academic courses challenging, but ACE IT is helping them achieve. In 2013-14, the average improvement for students in the program was 19 per cent above the average score in standardized tests across the district. Only three of 190 students scored lower, with the lowest being only seven per cent below the average.

The highest achieving student scored 46 per cent higher in the ACE IT program.

The number of children in care being educated in Surrey has dropped from more than 600 in November 2011 to about 200. Standardized tests show an improvement of 12.5 per cent between Grade 4 and Grade 7 in the proportion of those students reading to a level that meets or exceeds expectations, and a 6.25 per cent increase in writing to the same standard. However, the district recognizes a need to work on numeracy, with 18.75 per cent fewer students who are in care meeting expectations in Grade 7 than when they were in Grade 4.
Three former Surrey Board of Education trustees have been recognized by the current board for their service to the district.

Pam Glass, who retired after 15 years of service to Surrey school district, was a great supporter of school athletics, particularly cricket. The former track and field Olympian and former member of Canada’s national field hockey team was a great ambassador for the board, making people she met feel at ease and that their views were important to her.

Reni Masi, a former board chairperson and vice-chairperson, retired after nine years as a trustee. As a former teacher and secondary school principal in the district, he brought a valued perspective that often helped the board better understand the potential implications of decisions.

Masi, pictured here receiving his recognition from current board chairperson Shawn Wilson, worked hard to make the district’s popular International Baccalaureate program more accessible, specifically in the north area of the district, and championed physical education.

During her three years as a trustee, education assistant Charlene Dobie was a very active and tireless advocate for students and others. She volunteered much of her time to participate with and assist student events in the district; from early learners to secondary student leadership forums.

Thousands of students from across the Pacific north-west will descend on Surrey for the Envision Jazz Festival this week.

Now in its 33rd year, the three-day Envision Jazz Festival at the Bell Performing Arts Centre (6250 - 144 St.) from February 19-21 combines daytime concerts by 2,500 secondary school students with evening performances by jazz professionals.

Entry to daytime and evening performances is free but cash donations will be accepted for Envision Financial’s The Full Cupboard program, which raises food, funds and awareness for food banks.

All donations received during the Envision Financial Jazz Festival will benefit Surrey School’s meal programs.

For more details, please visit: www.envisionjazzfestival.com
Hundreds of Surrey students showcased their skills in song and dance at festivals this winter. At the Surrey Secondary Dance Festival, students from grades 8 through 12 put on high energy displays in forms such as hip hop, bhangra, jazz, street, Broadway and contemporary at the Bell Performing Arts Centre. In total, the 10 Surrey schools taking part in the Secondary Dance Festival put on 30 performances, which received frequent whoops and cheers from the excited audience.

The arts centre also provided the stage for the first Surrey Schools choral festival of 2015. Choirs from several schools performed and received expert feedback from Vancouver Men's Chorus conductor Willi Zwolinsky. His chorus gave a guest performance to finish the show.

Princess Margaret Secondary's Surrey Singers choir performs at the first Secondary Choral Festival of the 2015

Enver Creek Secondary students from Grades 10-12 perform a jazz and hip hop dance at the Surrey Secondary Dance Festival
Dragons and Wildcats are Surrey basketball champions

Basketball tournaments for high school girls and boys in Surrey saw wins for the Fleetwood Park Dragons and the Tamanawis Wildcats.

“The Fleetwood Park Dragons beat the Holy Cross Crusaders 55-46 in overtime to win the Axe Division in the final game at the Surrey Fire Fighters’ Senior Girls Basketball Goodwill Classic.”

Early, the Guildford Park Sabres reached the Ladder Division final, but Surrey Christian defeated them 47-20 to take that trophy. The North Surrey Spartans claimed Ladder Division bronze with a 47-29 win over the Enver Creek Cougars, while Lord Tweedsmuir beat Engin Park 54-45 to take third in the Axe Division.

The Sullivan Heights Stars was named the most sportsmanlike team in the 14th edition of the Fire Fighters’ tournament, which this year saw almost every secondary school in Surrey take part.

In the Surrey RCMP Basketball Classic tournament for the boys, Tamanawis Secondary won its second consecutive double, taking both the senior and junior titles.

The senior Wildcats overpowered the Southridge Storm 73-65 as the school claimed its third title from five consecutive championship game appearances. The prospects for continued Tamanawis success in Surrey's premier high school boys' basketball competition look strong with the Wildcats beating the Lord Tweedsmuir Panthers 62-52 for the junior title.

The senior Lord Tweedsmuir squad also had a strong performance, taking bronze from the Fleetwood Park Dragons with a 69-43 win. Third-place in the juniors went to the Fraser Heights Firehawks 51-46 over the Sullivan Heights Stars.

This was the 24th edition of the classic and the final was played in front of a huge crowd at Enver Creek Secondary.

“It's great to see such support for this annual event that is so popular with the students, schools, and parents in Surrey,” says Kevin DeBoice, Surrey RCMP Basketball Classic committee co-chair. “I thank everyone who helps make this tournament happen, particularly our partners, the Surrey RCMP”
District schools throughout Surrey are holding Ready, Set, Learn events for families with children aged three and four. Children and families can engage in a series of play-based learning activities within the school setting through Ready, Set, Learn. Parents and caregivers will receive helpful tips to support their child’s learning and development, plus information about the district’s early learning programs and community resources available to families.

Ready, Set, Learn is a great way for parents to get to know their child’s future school and meet the principal, staff and students. Please visit the pre-school web pages at SurreySchools.ca to see a full list of events at district schools.
SPRING BREAK CAMPS

Work with ‘Caps coaching staff, meet Spike, hang out with a Whitecaps FC player and get a camp t-shirt. All skill levels U6 - U13 boys and girls.

SOUTH SURREY
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Hosted by: Coastal FC

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