

District

The Surrey school district was formed in 1906. It has the largest student enrolment in British Columbia. Surrey Schools is governed by an elected board of seven trustees representing the cities of Surrey and White Rock.

Students

Many cultures are represented within the student population. There are close to 3,200 students of Aboriginal ancestry (First Nations, Métis and Inuit). Approximately half of students attending school in the district are from a household in which a language other than English is spoken. Of the more than 187 languages other than English represented in Surrey schools, the highest percentages are Punjabi, Hindi, Tagalog (Filipino), Mandarin and Arabic.

Parents

Parent involvement is welcomed at our schools. The Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) are valued as active partners in education. PACs are active at both the elementary and secondary levels and have representation on the District Parent Advisory Council and many district committees.

Schools

Surrey Schools has 101 elementary schools, 20 secondary schools, five student learning centres, two adult education centres, one community college, a distributed (online) learning program and a variety of satellite and inter-agency programs serving a wide range of specific student needs.

School populations in September 2017 ranged from:

- 26 - 846 students in elementary schools; and
- 1,123 - 2,036 students in secondary schools.

Early Learning

Ready, Set, Learn events held throughout the district provide three and four-year-old children and their families with an opportunity to participate in a series of play-based learning activities within the school setting. Parents/caregivers learn more about community supports and receive helpful tips to support their child's learning and development.

StrongStart is a free drop-in program where parents/caregivers and their children, from infants to five-year-olds, can participate together in a range of early learning experiences with an opportunity to play, learn and grow together. Parents and caregivers discover new ways to support their children's learning at home and may make valuable connections with others in the community who are also attending the centre. Locations and other details are available at www.surreyschools.ca under "[Early Learning](#)".

Programs

Surrey Schools offers a variety of specialized and "choice" programs for students. Details of these programs are available on the district website at www.surreyschools.ca under "[Programs](#)".

- Aboriginal Education supports Indigenous students and families across all schools;
- Learner Support Teams, English Language Learner programs, and Gifted Education;
- Community Schools Partnership provides programming, support and resources to our vulnerable students before and after school, and during school breaks;
- Core French, French as a Second Language, French Immersion and Intensive French programs;
- Punjabi Language program;
- Advanced Placement courses and International Baccalaureate programs for academically talented secondary students;
- Discovery, Montessori, Traditional and Intensive Fine Arts alternative elementary school programs;
- Learning Centres, Growing Together (for teen moms), Inter-A and Integrated Studies;
- Settlement and multicultural support through the Surrey School District Welcome Centre;
- Post-Secondary Training for Education Assistants, Applied Behaviour Analysis Support Workers and Hairdressing;
- Adult and Continuing Education opportunities;
- International Education short and long-term programs;
- Surrey Academy of Innovative Learning (SAIL): A Blended Learning Online School (K-12)";
- District Career Education Partnership programs, career-oriented programs, Co-op Education, Secondary School Apprenticeship and work experience placements;
- EKOLogy: outdoor learning experiences that integrate curriculum with children's innate wonderings and curiosity.

Our Vision:

We prepare our learners to think creatively and critically, communicate skilfully, and demonstrate care for self and others.

Guiding Principles:

The Board of Education is guided by a focus on:

- Supporting the design of engaging learning environments for all students.
- Operational efficiencies that prioritize resources to directly support learning.
- Relationships with community partners to broaden opportunities for students.
- Advocacy for necessary facilities and resources.
- Schools and workplaces that are safe and welcoming.
- Environmental stewardship.

Location

Surrey is one of the largest cities in Canada in area and is located on the traditional territories of the Katzie and Semiahmoo First Nations, as well as other Coast Salish peoples (Kwantlen and Qayqayt).

The city is in the southwestern corner of British Columbia, approximately 40 minutes from the City of Vancouver, bordering northwestern Washington, USA.

Size

The school district serves the City of Surrey, the City of White Rock and includes the rural area of Barnston Island. The total area of the district is approximately 328 square kilometres.

Employees

Surrey Schools is Surrey's largest employer with 10,989 employees including 6,063 teachers.

Enrolment

Surrey Schools has the highest student enrolment in B.C. As of September 2017, the district has 70,736 students in K-12 plus more than 753 students in adult education high school completion programs.

Surrey School District's 2017/2018 enrolment includes:

- 42,523 grades K-7 students in 101 elementary schools,
- 27,581 grades 8-12 students in 20 secondary schools,
- 753 grades 8-12 students in five learning centres,
- 445 grades K-12 students in Surrey Academy of Innovative Learning, including online learners, and
- 187 students in other educational programs and services.

Budget

2017/2018 Budget (preliminary):

○ Operating Budget:	\$663,645,734
○ Capital Budget:	\$ 49,753,733
○ Special Purpose:	\$ 62,880,230

Operating Breakdown:

<i>Instruction</i>	\$570,554,495
<i>District Administration</i>	\$17,258,043
<i>Operations & Maintenance</i>	\$70,103,420
<i>Transportation</i>	\$5,729,776

Surrey Schools devotes proportionately more of its 2017/2018 operating budget to instruction and less on district administration than the provincial average.

	<i>British Columbia</i>	<i>Surrey</i>
<i>Instruction</i>	82.9%	86%
<i>District administration</i>	3.6%	2.6%

Surrey Schools also spends proportionately more than the provincial average on teachers in the classroom.

	<i>British Columbia</i>	<i>Surrey</i>
<i>Teachers</i>	43.7%	47.5%