

Theresa Clarke stəqʷaθen Elementary
13104 109 Avenue
604-595-4048

April 11, 2025

Ey'swayel Theresa Clarke stəqʷaθen families,

Welcome to April! I hope you are all well as we have settled into our final term of school. My time at KB Woodward has been filled with the joy of meeting new students, families, and staff. And while change can be difficult, I sense excitement as we plan the transition to Theresa Clarke stəqʷaθen Elementary.

Theresa Clarke Elementary – stəqʷaθen (across from but facing you; a Village on Surrey side near Qiyqet)

I am thrilled to share that the Kwantlen First Nation has gifted our school a name at the District Board meeting on Wednesday April 9. You can watch the naming at [THIS LINK](#). People from Kwantlen First Nation (including Chief Marilyn Gabriel) speak at about the 38min point and offer a prayer song at about 58min. Below is the official announcement of our school's name.

***Administrative Memorandum
Regular Board Meeting***

Background:

A new elementary school located at Site 074, 13104 – 109th Avenue, will open in September 2025. District staff requested submissions from the community on the name of the new school. The Kwantlen First Nation has gifted the name “Theresa Clarke Elementary School”.

Theresa Clarke was a respected Kwantlen Elder and descendant of a prominent family from Qiqeyt Village. Theresa was born October 14, 1914, a daughter of Sophie Browne and Fred Clarke. She grew up on the land of Kwantlen, but due to displacement they moved to a homestead up the hill in Surrey. Theresa worked in Glenrose Cannery in her youth doing several jobs including canning and working the line. She had fond memories of working in the cannery. She was a young girl who was partially blind and memorized the land in counting steps. She lived, learned and loved in the territory of Kwantlen Nation.

The Kwantlen First Nation has also requested that under the name Theresa Clarke Elementary will be the name “stəqʷaθen” which means “across from but facing you; a Village on Surrey Side near Qiyqet.”

The Surrey Board of Education would like to thank the Kwantlen First Nation for gifting the name for this school to the Surrey School District.

It is recommended:

THAT the new elementary school located at Site 074, 13104 – 109th Avenue, be named Theresa Clarke Elementary School, with the name “stəqʷaθen” underneath it.

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Playground is being installed!

Our playground installation is well underway – super exciting. I have had students come up to me to share their observations of the building process. So fun!



Childcare and subsidy

I do not have an answer on childcare at Theresa Clarke stəqʷaθen Elementary. The district is aware and is considering options. I will continue to keep you updated on latest developments. On the topic of childcare, I would like to bring to your attention that many families are eligible for a substantial subsidy for childcare called the Affordable Child Care Benefit. [CLICK HERE to download.](#)

Front fence to enclose the perimeter

I am optimistic a front fence will be installed to enclose the perimeter of the school. Yay!

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Green Timbers Awesome Amphibians

We have a wonderful opportunity for your kindergarten child, their siblings, and you to explore Green Timbers Urban Forest and learn about amphibians! On **May 6 from 12:30pm – 2:00pm**, we are hoping that you and your children will participate in *Awesome Amphibians* to learn about frogs and salamanders. This is also a great opportunity for the children attending New City Centre Elementary to spend time with each other and build community. Please complete the forms link as soon as possible (but no later than April 18) to let us know if you and your children will join us. <https://forms.office.com/r/5MtTXazGxU>

Kindly Note: Parents/guardians will be responsible for the transportation.

Program	<i>Awesome Amphibians</i>
Date & time	May 6 th - 12:30 PM- 2:00 PM
Location	Green Timbers Park -14225 Green Timbers way, Surrey
Transportation	Parents/ Guardians responsible for the transit
What to expect?	Walking paths are either grass or packed dirt. Please wear appropriate footwear for the weather conditions and to be outside.

Welcome to Kindergarten

KB Woodward and New City Elementary will combine our Welcome to Kindergarten on Thursday June 5. Welcome to Kindergarten is for children entering Kindergarten this coming September. More information about the first few weeks of school for Kindergarten students will be sent to families in the weeks ahead.

Coffee and Connect

A reminder that KB Woodward's next parent coffee and connect is Monday April 28 at 8:30am. All parents are welcome. ☺