

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 more than 3,200 students of Indigenous ancestry (First Nations, Métis and Inuit). More than 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 197 languages other than English represented in Surrey schools, the highest percentages are Punjabi, Mandarin, Tagalog (Filipino), Hindi 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 103 elementary schools, 21 secondary schools, five student learning centres, three adult education centres, 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 2023 ranged from:

- 73 to 867 students in elementary schools; and
- 1,185 to 1,882 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 and Services](#)".

- Aboriginal Learning 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 secondary students;
- Montessori, Traditional and Intensive Fine Arts elementary school programs;
- Learning Centres, Growing Together (pregnant and parenting moms), Inter-A (Integrated Academics);
- Settlement and multicultural support through the Surrey School District Welcome Centre;
- Post-Secondary Training for Education Assistants, Applied Behaviour Analysis Support Workers, Building Service 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: East Kensington Outdoor Learning elementary program.

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.
- Supporting schools and workplaces that are safe and welcoming.

Learning by Design:

The Board works in partnership with staff, students, parents and the community to support the district's vision.

The transformation of public education finds expression in the district's refreshed vision called Learning by Design which incorporates three key themes: **Learning, Structures, and Tools** - that support innovation in our schools.

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 322 square kilometres.

Employees

Surrey Schools is Surrey's largest employer with 12,540 employees including 6,716 teachers.

Enrolment

Surrey Schools has the highest student enrolment in B.C. As of September 2023, the district has 80,208 students compared to 77,303 students in September 2022.

Surrey School District's 2023/2024 enrolment includes:

- 46,003 grades K-7 students in 103 elementary schools,
- 31,651 grades 8-12 students in 21 secondary schools,
- 735 grades 8-12 students in five learning centres,
- 1,465 grades K-12 students in Surrey Academy of Innovative Learning, including online learners,
- 232 students in other educational programs and services,
- 116 homeschool students, and
- 6 hospital/homebound students

Budget

2023/2024 Budget (preliminary):

Operating Budget:	\$902,319,146
Capital Budget:	\$ 52,328,800
Special Purpose:	\$ 95,758,008
Total Budget	\$1,050,405,954

Operating	Breakdown:
Instruction	\$776,147,363
District Administration	\$ 22,121,370
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 95,356,875
Transportation	\$ 8,693,538

Surrey Schools devotes proportionately more of its 2023/2024 operating budget to instruction and less on district administration than the provincial average.

	British Columbia	Surrey
Instruction	83%	86%
District administration	3.9%	2.5%

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

	British Columbia	Surrey
Teachers	42.5%	46.4%