

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 3,000 but less than 3,200 students of Indigenous ancestry (First Nations, Métis and Inuit). Less 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 198 languages other than English represented in Surrey schools, the highest percentages are Punjabi, Mandarin, Hindi, Tagalog 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 105 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 2024 ranged from:

- 80 to 795 students in elementary schools; and
- 1,158 to 1,973 students in secondary schools.

Early Learning (ages birth to 5)

Young children and their families are invited to attend Surrey's Early Years Fairs happening throughout the year. The Fairs gather a variety of community resources all in one place, while children engage in fun, play-based activities. Other early learning school-based events will be advertised through local neighborhood schools. These provide young children and their families with opportunities to participate in various play-based learning activities within a school setting. Parents/caregivers learn more about the school community and ways to support their child's learning and development.

StrongStart is a free drop-in program where parents/caregivers and their young children participate together in a range of early learning experiences with opportunities to play, learn and grow together. They will discover new ways to support their children's learning and growth, and make valuable connections to community supports, educators and other families.

For StrongStart locations and all other information related to early learning in Surrey, please visit, <http://www.surreyschools.ca> "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 12,983 employees including 7,106 teachers.

Enrolment

Surrey Schools has the highest student enrolment in B.C. As of September 2024, the district has 81,554.

Surrey School District's 2024/2025 enrolment includes:

- 46,582 grades K-7 students in 105 elementary schools,
- 32,512 grades 8-12 students in 21 secondary schools,
- 730 grades 8-12 students in five learning centres,
- 1,492 grades K-12 students in Surrey Academy of Innovative Learning, including online learners,
- 238 students in other educational programs and services,
- 135 homeschool students, and
- 6 hospital/homebound students

*These numbers represent totals submitted to the Ministry of Education and Childcare as of September 2024.

Budget

2024/2025 Budget (preliminary):

Operating Budget:	\$958,543,379
Capital Budget:	\$ 56,108,336
Special Purpose:	\$128,095,718
Total Budget	\$1,142,747,433

Operating	Breakdown:
Instruction	\$833,879,684
District Administration	\$ 22,648,397
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 96,734,036
Transportation	\$ 5,281,262

Surrey Schools devotes proportionately more of its 2024/2025 operating budget to instruction and less on district administration than the provincial average.

	British Columbia	Surrey
Instruction	83%	87 %
District administration	3.9%	2.4%

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

	British Columbia	Surrey
Teachers	42%	46 %