

June 24, 2010

## **Surrey Board of Education Recognition: Mr. Peter Drescher**

Tonight, our board is recognizing someone who has – in so many ways – provided outstanding leadership in our district. Deputy Superintendent Mr. Peter Drescher is retiring at the end of this month after 29 years of passionate, caring service to the students...the staff...and the board of education of the Surrey School District.

Mr. Drescher joined our district as a vice-principal and soon became a principal of Guildford Park Secondary, and later, at Semiahmoo secondary. He was at Semi for just a year when he was asked to take on the challenge of opening Fleetwood Park Secondary school as its first principal. His legacy of establishing a positive culture, strong school community and tradition at Fleetwood Park is still being enjoyed, honoured and recognized by the school to this day.

After two years as an assistant superintendent, Mr. Drescher has led the district as Deputy Superintendent for the last nine years. During his leadership, he has championed many lasting district milestones and achievements, including the extensive Vision 2010 district strategic renewal process and the Leadership Academy for new administrators.

Mr. Drescher also led the way in promoting excellence and innovation in educational practice through his tireless support of the school district's "Leadership for Learning" research. He organized the board's many annual public education stakeholder consultation meetings, as well as production of the district's Annual Report on Student Achievement, among others.

Whether as a teacher...a basketball coach...a principal...or a district leader, Mr. Drescher has been a role-model for students and staff alike throughout his career in the Surrey School District. He has been a mentor, and a friend to so many people—his professionalism always perfectly seasoned with his wonderful sense of humour.

These are just a few examples of Peter's far-reaching legacy. And throughout all his hard work in our district, it was clear to his colleagues his motivation—his *raison d'être*—was the children...his passion for helping students succeed. He never lost sight of the goal of "Keeping Learners at the Centre".

The Surrey Board of Education recognizes Peter Drescher for his exceptional legacy of leadership and support for the students and staff of the Surrey School District.