



## Youth Diversity Liaison

### GOAL

*To provide culturally sensitive, relevant support for diverse students and their families throughout the district, including a continuum of service for students and families experiencing challenging circumstances.*

### Assessment

For students with behavioural problems, the Youth Diversity Liaison meets with the student and his or her family to help resolve issues that may be a factor in the behaviour, whether communication-related, generational, cultural or systemic. The Liaison works to resolve barriers and promote academic success.

*\* In order to ensure the success of the program, the referral needs to be made at the time of suspension. \**

### Referral

After the assessment, the Youth Diversity Liaison may refer the student and family to an appropriate, culturally sensitive community-based program and assists in making the connection with those resources. The community-based programs include:

**Pacific Community Resources Society** (family counselling and employment programs)

**OPTIONS Society** (family counselling and early intervention)

**VIRSA** (parenting and youth outreach programs)

**PICS** (youth employment and occupational training programs)

**Surrey Delta Immigrant Services Society** (employment and youth buddy programs)

### Intervention

The Youth Diversity Liaison can also provide one-to-one support to a student and family if an appropriate, culturally sensitive community resource is not readily available.

### After-Care

The Youth Diversity Liaison provides the community resource with valuable summary information about the student to ensure the most effective support, while respecting the student's privacy. The Liaison is also there to provide ongoing support for the student and family when the student returns to school.

### Parent Support

Parents are often deeply affected if their son or daughter displays high risk or problem behaviour.

The Youth Diversity Liaison provides support for parents or guardians by offering in-home conflict resolution and mediation, and other support the family may need.

*Family Mediation*

*Conflict Resolution*

*One-to-one Student Support*

*Employment Support*

*Recreational Opportunities*

*Group Mediation*

*Gang Awareness Education and Prevention*

### Community Development

The Youth Diversity Liaison communicates and collaborates with the community in a variety of ways. The Liaison hosts public forums on topics such as parenting, communication and cultural issues and understanding the complexities of living in a multicultural community.

The Liaison also works closely with the Surrey RCMP Youth Section, Youth Intervention Program and the Surrey School District Safe School Liaisons to support and promote a safe and caring school environment.

### Educational Support

The Youth Diversity Liaison provides classroom presentations on cultural and many other topics aimed at assisting students in integrating and thriving in a multicultural environment. (More information is available on the presentation request form.)

### Professional Development

The Youth Diversity Liaison is a resource for teachers, counsellors and administrators as well; providing cross-cultural and cultural sensitivity training, as well as presentations about culture-specific community support resources. (More information is available on the presentation request form.)

### Criteria for Referral

All referrals need to be communicated through Principals, Vice Principals, District Resource Counsellors or RCMP Youth Section Officers.

Youth and/or parents need to be informed that they are being referred.

Youth and/or parents need to be active participants.

**Any questions or comments can be referred to Rob Rai, Assistant Manager  
Safe Schools Department at 778-772-4192 or [rai\\_r@sd36.bc.ca](mailto:rai_r@sd36.bc.ca)**