



# News Release

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## **Innovative Community-Schools Partnership program expands into Cloverdale**

Six more elementary schools—three in Cloverdale—have joined the successful Community-Schools Partnership program; extending community services to more Surrey neighbourhoods for families experiencing financial and other barriers to participating in community and leisure services.

“The Community-School Partnership concept has been proven to make a real difference in the lives of our community’s children and families,” says Surrey Board of Education chair Reni Masi. “Our board and our partners are working together to extend the benefits of the program to more families in our city.”

The program is now available in Cloverdale at Don Christian elementary, Latimer Road elementary and Martha Currie elementary. In addition, more schools have joined existing neighbourhood programs in Newton (George Vanier elementary) and Whalley (Forsyth Elementary and Old Yale Road Elementary). The Community-School Partnership also continues at schools in the Guildford neighbourhood.

For the Community-School Partnership program at Kwantlen Park and Guildford secondary schools, “youth hubs” have recently been developed to provide support and services more specific to teen issues.

Community Schools weave together an array of local services, resources and expertise to complement and enhance the school district’s educational mandate and the City of Surrey’s Community and Leisure Services support mandate to address the needs of children, families and the broader community. By consolidating services such as health, social, recreation and literacy, families benefit from easier access to important resources and community support.

The program was launched in the 2006-2007 school year by the Surrey School District in partnership with the City of Surrey and the United Way of the Lower Mainland.

More information about the program is at [www.communityschoolspartnership.surrey.ca](http://www.communityschoolspartnership.surrey.ca)

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