



Information Release

From: Craig Spence, Communications Manager

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Topic: Langley School District pleased to be getting new school in Willoughby

Langley School District is very pleased with the announcement from the Ministry of Education that a new school has been approved for the Willoughby area.

The district has long had new schools in Willoughby as a priority on its Capital Plan, and the Ministry had indicated the request would be given high priority at the provincial level as well. This announcement is the result of consistent representation from the Board of Education and Senior Management, and ongoing dialogue with the Ministry. This school, in addition to other requests in the district's Five Year Capital plan, will help meet the needs of families in the Willoughby area.

"We have worked hard to bring this project forward," said Board of Education Chair Joan Bech. "The Ministry of Education has been aware of the enrolment pressures in Willoughby schools and has acted decisively to alleviate the situation. This will help us accommodate Full Day Kindergarten enrolments for all students beginning in the 2011-2012 school year."

Although details of the project have not been finalized, Langley School District is confident the planning and construction phases can be completed expeditiously, allowing for the accommodation of students. "This will help us greatly in planning to make room for Full Day Kindergarten," Chair Bech said. "Without this additional capital funding for the district, we faced a severe challenge delivering Full Day Kindergarten to families."

"Langley School District will continue to work closely with government and Ministry staff developing plans that meet the educational needs of students through strategic capital investments," she said. "I want to thank Ministry and District staff for the excellent work they have done in this area."