

It takes a community...

North Vancouver School District owes its success in serving students to a number of community partners, listed below.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Lower Mainland
Capilano Community Services Society
Family Services of the North Shore
Hollyburn Family Services
Ministry of Children and Family Development
Ministry of Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services,
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority
Municipalities of the City and District of North Vancouver
North Shore Association for the Mentally Handicapped
North Shore Disability Resource Society
North Shore Multicultural Society
North Shore Neighbourhood House
North Shore Restorative Justice Society
North Shore Safe House
North Shore YWCA One Stop Career Shop
North Shore Youth Justice
North Vancouver Recreation Commission
Pacific Legal Education Association
Parkgate Community Services Society
RCMP
Squamish Nation
Tsleil-Waututh Nation
West Coast Alternatives Society

For more information, please contact the Coordinator, Safe and Caring Schools, (604) 903-3463, or the District Secondary Counsellor, (604) 903-3278.

Artwork by students in the SRSP program at Boundary Elementary School.

**NORTH VANCOUVER
SCHOOL DISTRICT** 
www.nvsvd44.bc.ca.



Safe and caring schools: it's about community

North Vancouver School District is committed to supporting every student, regardless of need. With the help of our community partners, North Vancouver School District wants to ensure that each of our students has the best possible chance at success.

To find out more, see inside!

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A commitment to every child

North Vancouver School District has devised a number of innovative intervention strategies to fulfil a range of student needs:

Academic support: individual or small group support for students who are experiencing difficulties in their core subjects.

Alternatives to suspension: constructive consequences for behaving in an unacceptable manner, apart from being sent home.

Mental and emotional wellness: behavioural and social/emotional support for students, including assistance in substance abuse prevention and treatment.

Socially responsible behaviour: skill instruction and support to help students make positive choices in their lives and to become caring, responsible adults.

Support for teen parents: academic support, life skills, counselling, and childcare for young parents.

At North Vancouver schools, we care about our students.

Social Responsibility Support Program (SRSP)

supports elementary students whose social, emotional, behavioural, and/or mental health issues make it difficult for them to function in a regular school program. Located at Boundary Elementary School, SRSP offers intensive instruction in social skills such as problem-solving and anger management. SRSP provides a morning program for students ages 5-9 and an afternoon program for students ages 9-13. SRSP is unique in that students maintain their connection with their home school, the intent being to find ways for them to function better at that school. Behaviour support workers assist students prior to coming to SRSP, support them while in the program, and follow up with them once they return to their regular school. The program typically lasts 12 to 16 weeks. Parent involvement is critical to student success.

Community partners for SRSP: Ministry of Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services (Vancouver Coastal Health); and Ministry of Children and Family Development.

Transition Program

, situated at Keith Lynn Alternate Secondary School, is a full-day program for students in grades 6-8 with behavioural issues. This program combines academics with life skills and social skills training. It also has an extensive outdoor component. When students successfully complete the Transition program, they may go on to attend Keith Lynn's regular program or to return to one of our mainstream schools.

Community partners for Transition Program: Ministry of Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services (Vancouver Coastal Health); and Ministry of Children and Family Development.

Constructive Alternatives to Teen Suspension (CATS)

offers options for teens who commit drug or alcohol infractions at school. Instead of being sent home, they are enrolled in a three-day structured program that provides information on drug, alcohol, and addictions issues. Students learn decision-making skills and receive information about available resources in the North Shore. Therapeutic support is also available, and confidentiality is assured. In addition, students receive support upon their return to school. Second-time offenders are not permitted back to CATS but instead receive one-on-one counselling. Parents receive a parent information package and are informed about other agency supports available in the Lower Mainland.

Community partners for CATS: Ministry of Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services (Vancouver Coastal Health); West Coast Alternatives Society; and Capilano Community Services Society.

Adolescent Day Program

is a full-time day treatment program for youth 13 and up who are out of school because of substance abuse issues. Aimed at young people wanting to change their addictions, it provides a range of activities to encourage them to practise healthy lifestyles and to build positive support networks. The program's elements include academics, recreation, creativity, life skills, and therapy. Day Program staff include a teacher, addictions workers, clinicians, and a psychiatrist.

Community partner for Adolescent Day Program: Ministry of Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services (Vancouver Coastal Health).

Lucas Centre Bridging Program offers an alternative setting for students who are inclined to avoid school for mental health reasons such as anxiety or depression. Severe acting-out behaviour or acute substance abuse issues are not a factor. Some students may require support in developing social skills or in dealing with peer or family relationships. Students receive an academic program for three afternoons a week, and engage in group counselling and recreational activities for two afternoons a week. After successfully completing the program, some students may re-enter mainstream schools, while others may register for the Lucas Centre's Youth Learning Centre or engage in work experiences.

Community partner for Lucas Centre Bridging Program: Ministry of Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services (Vancouver Coastal Health).

Third Step School Program

supports youth 14-18 who, because of behavioural difficulties, are not enrolled or able to attend a conventional school. Many have special needs and have been identified as at-risk. In a safe, positive, and caring day program, Third Step students receive individual academic support to return to a mainstream school, to pursue job-training programs, or to secure employment. The youth also enjoy a range of recreational activities such as rock-climbing, skiing, and camping. Third Step is the proud recipient of the 2005 Outstanding Supporter of Youth Award. For more information, see www.3rdstep.cjb.net.

Community partners for Third Step: Ministry of Health; Mental Health and Addiction Services (Vancouver Coastal Health); City of North Vancouver; Hollyburn Family Services; North Shore Youth Justice; North Shore Neighbourhood House; PLEA Youth Services – Youth Support Recovery Program; and Squamish Nation.

Learning Together

is a secondary school program for pregnant and parenting teens. It also provides daycare for students' children under three years of age. Participants may access the program through the classroom at Sutherland Secondary, the daycare centre, or the North Shore Neighbourhood House Pregnant and Parenting Teen Program. Now in its 12th year, Learning Together is one of the few programs for pregnant and parenting teens in the province. The majority of participants have graduated with Dogwood diplomas.

Community partners for Learning Together: Ministry of Health; Mental Health and Addiction Services (Vancouver Coastal Health); Ministry of Children and Family Development; and North Shore Neighbourhood House.



A 2005 survey of students in the **Third Step Program** indicated that they felt welcome and accepted, they appreciated the opportunity to establish their own short and long-term goals, and they enjoyed the varied activities and opportunities provided by staff.

"If the Learning Together program didn't exist, I would NEVER have enrolled in school again. The program has given me flexibility, motivation, and confidence."

Student, Learning Together program

"I am really ready to move on and quit my use and put a stop to smoking so much weed."

Student, CATS program

"I enjoyed the class, as it showed me the consequences of alcohol and drug abuse."

Student, CATS program

"The Transition program really helped me prepare for going to a mainstream school."

Student, Transition program

"I have recently had two of my children attend the Social Responsibility Support Program in North Vancouver. What most impressed me about the program is the effort staff makes to communicate and work closely with the parents... Both of my kids are now doing very well back at their home school."

Parent, SRSP program