

DSBIA Questions to School Board Candidates

Gary Tymoschuk

1. What do you think are the three top issues affecting Surrey Schools today?
 - More schools
 - More operating funds
 - Improving student success

2. What are your priorities if elected and how will you implement your plans.
 - My priorities are based on more funding which comes from the provincial government. Therefore, I will continue to advocate for more funding from the provincial government of the day. I believe that this is best done by developing positive relationships with Surrey's MLA's as well as the Minister of Education by way of regular meetings and discussions and keeping them informed of our needs and continuing to press them for finances to meet our needs. Our board has done this in the past term and will continue to do so.

3. Surrey has too many portables. What is your plan to reduce the use of portables within SD36?
 - As mentioned above through regular communication with the provincial government we must (and will continue to) ensure that all Surrey MLA's are kept abreast of our need for more school spaces so that they can continue to advocate on our behalf. We will also continue to dialogue with the Minister of Education and senior Ministry staff to press them for approvals to proceed with our capital projects.

4. Children need activities and programs after school. Often recreation centres are too far from residential neighbourhoods and difficult to access. Do you support the use of school facilities after hours for recreational programs and would you advocate for this if elected?
 - Since there is only 1 taxpayer, yet many different levels of government, we must find ways to partner when it comes to community services and facilities. I promoted this during my terms on Surrey's Library board and Surrey's Parks & Recreation Commission. I still believe this. So yes, I support the continued use of school facilities after hours for recreational programs and would advocate for this. It must be noted that this already happens to some degree – but we need to find ways to enhance it.