

## BCSSA FRASER VALLEY CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

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*Education: An Integral Part of a Student's Successful Development*

**E**ducation provides the necessary skills on which children build their lives, and it is in all their rights to have access to the best education possible. Clearly, no school can function at a perfect standard, but there are many areas any school can improve on, with great results. Schools are more than just learning facilities, they are communities upon which our world is built. As technology constantly improves and breakthroughs are made, the only way to master the cutting edge is to be on it. Computers, scanners, and all other kinds of technical media are great benefactors to having an enriched education. Even before the technology tree begins to expand, primarily teachers are the stable backbone who provide each student with unending knowledge to fulfill their lives. As usual, going the extra mile for students is not part of a teacher's job, they merely are there to teach the material. But for those who do extend themselves, the rewards are greater for their students. Again, being a community, a school should have a solid assurance of safety that permeates the campus. School is meant to be a place of learning and fun, and when these, among other, functions are in general equilibrium, the finest progress can be made.

When learning, one can only advance more when they use all the resources they have available to them. Bearing this in mind, it is in every school's best interest to have the most recent technology at hand to enhance every student's learning experience. Given the capacity to internationally link all countries, the Internet is truly a modern-day marvel giving the gift of knowledge to any common person with a computer and access. Imagine, the constant flow of information to any willing minds being accessible within seconds. Truly, any school that bestows success upon its students has the Internet readily available. Even beyond the Internet, art programs such as Photoshop can improve the quality of learning in art courses. Among the many provisions a school can offer, technology should be held in higher esteem than most. We ought to place our educators even higher on the list, who are there in the classroom, being the first line of defense against ignorance.

Teachers, as their title states, communicate necessary information to aid students in the course they are learning about. Communication is key when it comes

to a teacher's way of instruction. When the correct methods are exercised, a student can then be fully aware as to how what they are learning can be applied. Although a teacher can only go so far when it comes to student attitudes toward work habits, the mark of a good teacher will show that they are willing to go beyond the basics. A student should come out of every class excited about what they recently learned. Knowledge can be read and recalled straight from a textbook, but it is when that knowledge is applied to our lives that it becomes wisdom. A good teacher should sufficiently supply students with both. The classroom should be more than a lecture session and then quiet work, but rather have the lecture and quiet work in balance with thoughtful lessons. One would want all students, ideally, to have conveyed to them that they have what it takes to be successful. Besides being successful, in the process of learning, a student should have minimal stresses to be concerned about, safety being one of them. When students enter a school, a feeling of safety should wash over them like a wave. There should be no sense of danger in any minds that walk into the doors of an institution of learning. That sort of weight on the mind can detrimentally affect an average student's ability and performance during classes. Therefore, a common factor of high-achieving schools is the fact that their students generally feel safe and are comfortable in their learning environment. Every effort should be put forth by the entire school staff to ensure that a collective state of calmness and lack of anxiety is vicariously experienced by the students through the teachers.

The most effective development at school is created best when enjoyment, learning, and a relaxed atmosphere, including other elements, are in balance with one another. As teachers train their students to think positively, wisely schooling them to apply all the knowledge they have acquired, and show them that they can truly make a difference, they will have given them a solid foundation on which to begin their career paths. This is the type of school that would be fondly remembered by its students and one that any teacher would be proud to be a part of. Implementing this sort of structure will undoubtedly lead to greater numbers of student success stories. ❖