
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Education

SOUTH RUTLAND ELEMENTARY SHOWS ITS SPIRIT

KELOWNA – South Rutland Elementary has been named the first Spirit School winner in B.C., taking home the program’s bronze level for participating in programs and activities that demonstrated their Olympic spirit, Premier Gordon Campbell announced today.

“Congratulation all of the students at South Rutland Elementary for demonstrating their enthusiasm and excitement about the Winter Games and creating their own local legacy of activity and involvement,” said Premier Campbell. “This school embraced the Olympic spirit and inspired their community and each other by getting involved and being active.”

South Rutland Elementary coupled the Olympic theme with Hallowe’en to have a truly creative program. The school held a Hallowe’en-themed Olympic Games where students competed in activities like “Jack-o-Lantern Juggle”. To create a legacy from their Spirit School experience they have created the “Play Pals” program, which trains Grade 6 students to lead other students in creative games on the school yard.

“I want to congratulate the staff and students at South Rutland Elementary,” said Kelowna-Lake Country MLA Norm Letnick. “Through their many projects they have demonstrated Olympic values such as the pursuit of excellence and fair play while focussing on healthy living and physical fitness.”

The Spirit Schools Program encourages B.C. schools to show B.C. and the world the interesting 2010 Winter Games-related activities that students are engaged in. To become a 2010 Spirit School, schools were asked to take the ActNow BC Healthy Living Pledge, which encourages healthy eating and physical activity, and to participate in 2010 Winter Games Education programs.

Designations include:

- Bronze level – participated in at least one program or activity.
- Silver level – participated in at least five programs or activities.
- Gold level – participated in at least 10 programs or activities.

“We are bringing the excitement and values of the Games into classrooms throughout B.C.,” said Education Minister Margaret MacDiarmid. “And the fact that the 2010 Olympic Winter Games are being held right here, in B.C., gives teachers access to a wealth of unique educational programs and resources.”

The gold, silver and bronze winning schools receive Act Now BC Athlete Ambassador visits, Vancouver 2010 mascot visits and other 2010 Winter Games-related prizes. To view all of the 2010 Spirit School stories go to www.sharingthedream.gov.bc.ca.

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