

## **The Record**

### **SmartReading innovator retiring from school district**

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Assistant superintendent Susan Close, who is credited with making SmartReading and SmartLearning key learning techniques in New Westminster, announced she will be retiring on Dec. 31.

Close, who has spent eight years in the district, will use her remaining vacation time but will be available in the fall to mentor and provide guidance to her replacement.

"Susan has been a tremendous asset to the school district," said superintendent John Woudzia.

"There's virtually no one like Susan. She's a visionary educator, and her passion for her work and her passion for students has really been invaluable. ... Her legacy to the district is SmartReading."

Woudzia said the posting for Close's position will not be for an assistant superintendent but for a director of instruction for learning services and literacy.

"We hope to hire somebody by the time school's out," Woudzia said.

"We could have a candidate in place by early July."

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