

ST.HELEN'S SCHOOL 1 ST PLACE THE GARFIELD WESTON AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA--(Marketwire - Nov 9, 2007) - Fifty-three schools from across British Columbia were recognized as being among the best in the province at the annual Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in Education dinner in Vancouver Thursday.

Awards were presented in two categories, each reflecting different aspects of academic success. Improvement in Academics - Elementary and Improvement in Academics - Secondary recognize schools that have experienced the fastest, most consistent improvement in their academic ratings over the past five years

The awards are based on an analysis of the historical data of each school included in independent research organization The Fraser Institute's annual Report Card on BC's Elementary Schools and Report Card on BC's Secondary Schools. Out of 291 secondary schools and 984 elementary schools in BC, only the top performers in each category were invited to participate in the awards.



"The teachers, support staff, and administrators from these schools are pathfinders and have shown us what is possible," said Peter Cowley, director of school performance studies at The Fraser Institute. "We are delighted to honour their hard work and achievement. Not only does celebrating the accomplishments of these educators enable them to share their success with others, it also serves to inspire those seeking such success."

St. Helen's Elementary School of Burnaby won the award for Improvement in Academics-Elementary and a \$3,000 prize.

