

COMMUNICATION RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 8, 2015

Board Decision to Expand French Immersion Programming

You may be aware that the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division (SRPSD) has been consulting with parents, staff and students about ways to enhance the French Immersion programming in Prince Albert. École Vickers Public School principal Dr. Darcy Sander led a community consultation process that included the distribution of surveys, analysis of responses, contact with other school divisions, evaluation of facilities, and the compilation of a report summarizing all the information gathered.

At its recent meeting, the Board reviewed the report and then passed the following recommendation:

“That Board add French Immersion programming to Arthur Pechey Public School at the start of the 2016-2017 school year as outlined in the French Immersion Enhancement Study.”

This exciting development will provide new learning opportunities for students, families and the community! We also recognize there may be uncertainty for some. SRPSD Board of Education is committed to alleviating any concerns by providing excellence in programming and clarity in communication during the establishment of the program.

The robust English K-8 program will continue at Arthur Pechey as early grades of French Immersion programming will be added for the start of 2016-17 school year. Then, additional grade groups will be added over the coming few years until a complete K-8 French Immersion program is provided and Arthur Pechey becomes a full dual-track school. Final decisions about the details of the process will be made in the coming weeks and months. The process will include communication with the schools' staff, communication with the community, preparation of the facility, acquisition of resources, and the implementation of a transition plan.

Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division has been a leader in education for years and this is a new chapter in the development of the division and the community. Our Board of Education is committed to creating another outstanding program. SRPSD believes in our motto of *Excellence for Every Learner*.

More details will be shared as the process unfolds, but if you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact us at the following:

For more information, contact: Dr. Darcy Sander (306) 764-1571