

News Release



April 8, 2009 – Saskatchewan’s first-ever Late French Immersion Program starting this fall in Saskatoon

Attention all parents of Grade 5 students! Saskatoon Public Schools is launching a first-of-its-kind program in Saskatchewan, the Late French Immersion Program for students entering Grade 6 this fall.

This brand new program provides an enriched learning challenge and an opportunity for children who are not currently studying French Immersion to develop their fluency in French and become functionally bilingual in both of Canada’s official languages.

“We are very excited about this new French Immersion option which will open endless opportunities for students and prepare them to succeed in today’s global village,” says Stacey Zbeetnoff, French Immersion Educational Consultant for Saskatoon Public Schools. “Learning French opens not only minds, but doors and career opportunities.”

Late French Immersion is a long term program designed for students to become functionally bilingual in both of Canada’s official languages. It is not a one year program designed to give students a rigorous introduction to the French language. The program begins at Grade 6 and continues through to Grade 12. All subject areas are taught in French except for English Language Arts. In Grade 8, the Early and Late Immersion students join together into one program. The two groups become academically cohesive during the secondary years. Students are encouraged to stay in the program through Grade 12 in order to attain a high degree of bilingualism and to receive a bilingual graduate certificate.

The program is open to any student in Saskatoon who is entering Grade 6 in the fall and will be offered at École Henry Kelsey and École Lakeview Schools.

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For more information contact:

Stacey Zbeetnoff, Educational Consultant
French Immersion
(306) 683-8220