

Media Release



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

March 14, 2011 – Late French Immersion added to a third public school

École River Heights School becomes the third public school to offer Saskatoon's only Late French Immersion Program for students entering Grade 6 this fall.

Late French Immersion provides an enriched learning challenge and an opportunity for children who are not currently registered in French Immersion to develop their fluency in French and become functionally bilingual in both of Canada's official languages.

“While this new French Immersion option has only been available for two years in Saskatchewan, the interest and demand from our community continues to grow,” says Stacey Zbeetnoff, Educational Consultant: Instruction/French Immersion for Saskatoon Public Schools. “Offering Late French Immersion at École Henry Kelsey, École Lakeview and École River Heights Schools means more young people will have the opportunity to start late and finish fluent!”

Late French Immersion is a long term program designed for students to become functionally bilingual in both of Canada's official languages. 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 and socially 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, École Lakeview and École River Heights Schools. A public information meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19th at 7:30 p.m. Watch for more details at www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca

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