

MEDIA RELEASE

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French Immersion expands in Warman

French Immersion programming is expanding this fall at École Traditions Elementary School in Warman. French Immersion will be offered for Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 students for the 2019/20 school year.

École Traditions Elementary School currently offers French Immersion for Kindergarten and Grade 1 students. There are 28 Kindergarten students and 18 Grade 1 students in the school's French Immersion program this year.

"We are pleased to expand our French Immersion program in Warman," said Lori Jeschke, Director of Education. "The students, parents and school community have embraced French Immersion during this first year of the program."

The French Immersion program was established at École Traditions Elementary School in the fall of 2018, with the goal of expanding the program by one grade every year, up to Grade 8 (with sufficient enrolment).

The curriculum is parallel to the English curriculum, with all instruction in French. Students have access to supports as they would in the English program. École Traditions Elementary School is classified as a dual-track school, offering programming in both English and French.

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education approved the program expansion at its meeting on January 7, following a presentation by Peggy Mattila-Bains, Coordinator of Schools and Learning. She reported that French Immersion students have significantly developed their French language skills since September. "Their language has grown so much," she said.

Mattila-Bains highlighted a French Family Night for French Immersion students and their parents in the fall, which was a great success. École Traditions Elementary students in French Immersion spend time with Core French students from Warman Community Middle School. This is a strategy to build the French language skills for students from both schools, she reported.

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For more information, please contact:
Brenda Erickson, Communication Manager
(306) 683-2880
brenda.erickson@spiritsd.ca