



Prairie Valley School Division

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- News Release -

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“LEARNING FOR ALL” THE THEME OF THE 2009-10 SCHOOL YEAR

Addressing diversity, student engagement, and learning for all were topics presented at the Prairie Valley School Division opening conference today.

“When we say ‘Learning for All’, we mean all. All kids can achieve and we are going to be focusing our energy to eliminate the achievement gap that currently exists,” says Director of Education Ben Grebinski. “It means we will target our resources to those in most need, at the same time ensuring no child regardless of their resources is ignored.”

To achieve learning for all, a new model of Direct Service Delivery will see each diverse school in the Division examining data specific to their school and identifying areas to target for learning improvement in a Learning Improvement Plan. From this Plan, resources will be distributed where they are needed most.

Grade 7 Balgonie Elementary School student Brooklyn Teichroeb introduced keynote speaker Dr. Christopher Spence, the Director of Education for the Toronto District School Board. “Achieving, believing and caring are the ABCs that will bring about student achievement and learning. The school system has to work for every child. When it comes to the education of our children, failure is not an option,” said Spence.

Grade 6 Balgonie Elementary School student Samantha Machnaik introduced Tom Hierck, an author and associate superintendent in Gibsons, BC. “If every staff member here today makes a difference in the lives of eight students, we will reach every student in this Division. No learning happens without building those relationships,” said Hierck.

“As a Board we are very excited about many projects this year. We hope to see improved learning as a result of the beliefs and commitments within the 310 minute day calendar structure,” says Board Chair Janet Kotylak. “We have also eliminated student fees for compulsory courses in order to provide equity for all Prairie Valley families.”

Students in Prairie Valley School Division are unique as they go back to class after Labor Day on Tuesday, September 8.

Prairie Valley School Division serves approximately 8,000 students in 38 schools throughout southeast Saskatchewan. In support of the vision "Leadership in Learning and Life", the Division strives to ensure a high-quality education that provides students with the tools to reach and exceed their potential.

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For more information:

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