



Good Spirit School Division No. 204

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~ MEDIA RELEASE ~

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GSSD Board of Education Proud to Announce Opening of New School

The Board of Education is excited to introduce the 29th school that will be operating as part of the Good Spirit School Division. Bear Stream School is located approximately 6 kilometers east of Kamsack on Highway Five then 9 kilometers north on the Bear Stream grid. Bear Stream School is Good Spirit's first Hutterian school. We have been working closely with the Clarion Colony who moved to the Kamsack area last year from Cypress River; a community located 80 kilometers south and east of Brandon, Manitoba.

In September 2014, the administrators at the Clarion Colony purchased a building which was previously utilized as a school from another colony east of Winnipeg. A foundation was poured and the relocation process was begun making it possible for the structure to now have permanent residency in Saskatchewan. Immediately, building renovations were underway with new heating and cooling systems, new flooring, and bathrooms updated with the additional development of a kitchen where the community will eat.

Renovations were completed early April 2015 with classes set to start Monday, April 27. The newly appointed principal will be Colleen Pennell. Ironically, Mrs. Pennell will take on her first role as an administrator with Bear Stream School which is located in her former front yard. This specific land location is where her and her husband, Kim, raised their 4 children before relocating to Madge Lake.

Mrs. Pennell comments, "The Pennell family had just received their 100 years certificate for farming on that property the year prior to selling it and there are many memories in that yard. I look forward to the challenges my new position will bring and being involved with the community."

Bear Stream School will be opening with seven students ranging from Kindergarten to grade ten with additional students starting in the fall. Superintendent Mark Forsythe states, "This is an exciting time for the Good Spirit School Division as this is a new endeavour for us. We look forward to working closely with the Clarion Colony as we continue with the positive relationships that have developed throughout the past few months."

An official opening is yet to be determined. For further information, contact Mr. Dwayne Reeve, Director of Education, at 306-786-5500.

The Good Spirit School Division provides education opportunities to over 6,000 students operating 29 schools in 18 communities throughout East Central Saskatchewan. Our public schools value belonging, respect, responsibility, learning and nurturing by ensuring "Students Come First". Visit us at gssd.ca; call 306-786-5500 or 1-866-390-0773.

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