



Good Spirit School Division No. 204

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~ MEDIA RELEASE ~

December 21, 2015

GSSD Board of Education Discontinues Fort Livingstone School Review

At its regular board meeting of Thursday, December 17, 2015, the Good Spirit School Division Board of Education discussed the Fort Livingstone School review. In the October 2015 Board meeting, the board passed a motion to place the school under the school review process to determine viability of future operations. Based on a number of criteria as established in Board Policy 17 and *The Education Act, 1995*, the school review process essentially examines complete closure or grade discontinuance in a facility.

“This is always an extremely delicate process and one which the Board does not undertake lightly,” states Lois Smandych, Board Chair. “We sincerely appreciate the efforts of staff, parents and community members in working with us to ensure all information is shared and discussed in making difficult decisions.”

At the conclusion of in-committee discussions yesterday, the Board members passed a motion to discontinue the school review process at Fort Livingstone School effective immediately. Last year, the school was placed under review and, as a result of serious consideration and work with the Board and SCC, school closure was discontinued with the Grades 9 to 12 students transitioned to Norquay School. In addition, the Board included as part of their motion the fact that, if grade discontinuance instead of full closure is chosen, that no review would be conducted for up to 3 years providing student enrolment does not drop below 40 students Kindergarten to Grade 8. The current enrolment of Fort Livingstone School is 41 students and, considering this information, the Board discontinued the review process.

“The school review process is never an easy one,” acknowledged Smandych. “It is of the utmost importance to ensure that our schools are consistently evaluated. We are accountable to staff, students and community members and take our work seriously to provide the best educational programming possible in our facilities.”

For further information contact Rhae-Ann Holoiën, Director of Education, at 306-786-5500.

The Good Spirit School Division provides education opportunities to over 6,000 students operating 28 schools in 17 communities throughout East Central Saskatchewan. Caring for children in a supportive environment is as important as offering excellence in educational programming. 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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