EIPS Fort Saskatchewan French Immersion Elementary School Gets a New Name

Sherwood Park… The French Immersion elementary school in Fort Saskatchewan will have a new name next September.

At its regular meeting on Thursday, November 22, the Elk Island Public School (EIPS) Board of Trustees approved the name École Parc Élémentaire for the French Immersion school in Fort Saskatchewan, beginning in the 2013/2014 school year. The school will also change configurations at that time, becoming a single-track, French Immersion K-6 school.

“The new name, École Parc Élémentaire, has a strong historical significance,” says Board Chair Barb McNeill, “since it references the original French Immersion school in Fort Saskatchewan.”

The new school name meets the criteria outlined in the EIPS administrative procedure that addresses the naming of schools and other division-owned facilities. Selecting the name of an EIPS facility must be based on: a subdivision or identifiable area; an important contribution to the division, community, or society; or a competition or contest.

“We had a short list of possible names, which we submitted to the community for their input in October,” notes Bruce Beliveau, EIPS Superintendent. “All interested parents, students, school staff, and community members were invited to participate in the online survey, and all three names were strongly supported.”

École Rudolph Hennig students are changing more than their name and grade configuration next September. They will also switch school buildings, moving into the current Fort Saskatchewan Junior High School space. Students from the current junior high school will move into the current École Rudolph Hennig building, which will then be called Rudolph Hennig Junior High School. Both schools will be getting new school logos, mascots, and sports team logos.

“There is a lot of work to be done between now and next September to ensure the two school moves go smoothly,” notes Beliveau, “but the process is also going to be exciting for students. The students and their school communities will have the opportunity to participate in creating a new school community and identity.

“We appreciate the support we have received from parents, staff, and the community throughout this process, and are looking forward to the future of these two schools in Fort Saskatchewan,” he concludes.

Between now and September 2013, students, parents, and the school communities of both École Rudolph Hennig (www.rudolphhennig.ca) and Fort Saskatchewan Junior High (www.fortjr.ca) can keep up with the latest news by visiting each school’s website and checking out “The Move!” tab.

EIPS is one of Alberta’s largest school divisions, serving more than 16,300 students in 44 schools. We are proud to be an integral part of our communities, including Sherwood Park, Fort Saskatchewan, Vegreville, Strathcona and Lamont counties, and the western portion of the County of Minburn.