



News Release

École LaVérendrye officially opens new gymnasium

January 27, 2017 (Winnipeg, MB) – École LaVérendrye officially opened its new gymnasium and music room today with a celebration event including staff, students and the community.

The French Immersion school, located in the Fort Rouge area, has expanded by 9,268 sq.ft. which includes a 4,310 sq. ft. gymnasium, a 1,026 sq. ft. classroom plus ancillary spaces such as kitchenette, change rooms, washrooms, mechanical/service room and an above ground link connecting the second floor of the existing building by stairs and a new elevator.

“As the new principal this year, I’m honoured to have been part of the final stages of bringing this major project to its successful conclusion,” said Ruth Schappert, Principal, École LaVérendrye. “All of us at École LaVérendrye thank the many people here in the community and the school division who have contributed to making this expansion possible.”

Fort Richmond MLA Sarah Guillemard brought greetings from the Province on behalf of Education and Training Minister Ian Wishart.

“It’s so important to encourage and support young people in leading healthy, active lives,” said Guillemard. “This new gym will provide students with greater opportunities to be active and build healthy lifestyles. I congratulate the school community here at École LaVérendrye on the opening of this new gymnasium, which will benefit students for years to come.”

Winnipeg School Division Chair Sherri Rollins thanked the community for its efforts in raising funds to add an additional 310 sq. ft. to the planned expansion, noting open space is what school children love.

“The Winnipeg School Division Board of Trustees is pleased to see results of the division’s plans to accommodate French Immersion programs,” said Rollins. “The demand for French Immersion continues, and expanding our space in this part of the city is an important step in ensuring we continue to meet the needs of the community.” In addition to the École LaVérendrye expansion, WSD recently reopened École Sir William Osler for Nursery to Grade 2, with plans to add grades as students advance in grade.

WSD was established in 1871 and currently has 78 schools, 33,000 students and 6,000 employees. Its purpose is to provide a learning environment that fosters the growth of each student’s potential and provide equitable opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary for meaningful participation in a global and diverse society.

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