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French no longer offered to most Tisdale students

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For most students in Tisdale, taking core French will not be an option this year. The school division has canceled the class, but will offer the course online.

This school year most students in Tisdale will not have the option of taking French as a core subject.

The North East School Division made the decision after it consulted parents.

Don Rempel is the director of the school division and he calls cutting French classes from the curriculum a balance between the number of students enrolled, teachers available, and other classes the division could offer.

"What's the best use of teacher resources as far as advancing the priorities of the school?" Rempel said.

The school division said there was low enrolment in French in previous years.

Tisdale is now the eighth community in the North East School Division to drop core French. Michelle Fleury has three children going to school in town.

"By removing French from the curriculum the school division has made a very clear point to the children that second language in Canada is not important," Fleury said.

In Saskatchewan, core French is not mandatory, leaving it up to each school division to decide if it's offered.

An online French class will be available for students in Grades 10 to 12 if they want to continue learning the language.

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Caca? Nada!

Not surprising in a province where it was forbidding to teach, learn or speak French language from 1905 to 1989 (R. v. Mercure, [1988] 1 S.C.R. 234).

Old habits die hard...

32 minutes ago
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Intrepid 75

A lot of people in the discussion seem to be implying bigotry on the part of the decision makers in Tisdale, and I'm not familiar enough to make that call.

That said, I can state the following:

I live Saskatchewan, and don't think there is a strong anti-French or anti-Quebec bias anymore (I won't deny this is historically true).

Second, Tisdale doesn't offer a lifestyle that necessarily attracts University grads who will be qualified. It's a great place with fishing, hunting, ... » more

55 minutes ago
0 Likes

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Dr. Drew

We are a bilingual country, how not offering french is even allowed should be against federal and provincial regulations. Glad my child doesn't live in Tisdale and doesn't go to that school b/c I would be sending a monthly bill to the school district for gas and whatever other costs would be associated with transporting my child.

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Alonso Garret

Guess the geniuses like dogandpony and blob blobblob missed the part that you can take French lessons on line for credit if desired. I took French from grade 6 to grade 11 at a Saskatchewan high school, did very well mark's wise, but definitely was not proficient enough to pass a government exam for bi-lingualism. It was basically a wasted credit and I would have been much better off for university and career if they offered an advanced math course. I guess if you are a failed businessperson ... » more

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Plainzdrifter

If anything, we should be learning Spanish and Mandarin. French is no longer an international business language. English is still the easiest.

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gobruins

It's a shame. The SK education system is failing our children. Go ask a kid in grade 10 to hand write you their thoughts on <insert anything you want> - and you'll be shocked at what you get. Poor writing and spelling - and heaven forbid you ask them anything about math.

As far as French, this type of action limits the opportunities the children will have in the future. You may think you don't need French now, but come adulthood, it can be viewed as an asset and a career booster in ... » more

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Timeforchange

@gobruins

SK failing? look at NBs education system. 60% of our population is illiterate, french classes start at grade 5 and they still fail miserably at graduating Bilingual students.

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Junk-yard-dog

In that part of saskatchewan Cree could be offered as core subject.

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PrairieCityGirl

We're in Regina.....at my son's high school, his french teacher was only certified up to grade 9. To take further (grades 10-12), they had to do it as an online course – so I let him drop it for grade 10. I wonder if most of the french teachers are at the immersion schools, instead of just doing the "core" class.

2 hours ago
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BoB_LoBblaw_

School divisions are not known for their sound decisions based on the future. It is of little surprise that this hack wards heading school division has made such an atrocious decision. Time for Court?

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mfleury

Don Rempel cites declining enrollment as the reason for dropping French from the curriculum. However, when our oldest daughter attempted to fit French into her class schedule, it was offered at the same time as mandatory courses like English. This meant that our daughter had the option to take French or to graduate. It leaves the appearance that the school division set up the situation and then used it as their justification to discontinue French. At the annual ratepayers meeting, a former ... » more

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