



Joint News Release

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Two local school divisions pledge to work cooperatively

The folks at Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord (Centre-Nord) and Battle River School Division (Battle River) may speak different languages, but they have the same focus on doing what's best for students.

That's why the two local school divisions have pledged to work cooperatively to ensure students receive a quality educational experience.

Battle River has been providing bussing to students of the local Francophone school since it opened in 2014. Now, the two divisions are taking their partnership further by planning to share school space.

Earlier this year Battle River received funding to replace Chester Ronning, a Camrose school serving students in Pre-K to Grade 5.

Centre-Nord has also been seeking government approval for a school building in Camrose, in order to provide a suitable learning environment for students seeking a Francophone education.

It has become clear that both groups can benefit by having a joint school development project.

Replacement plans for Chester Ronning School are already in process and will move ahead on schedule. The timeline for the Centre-Nord addition has not yet been announced.

When the two-phase project is complete, students will be able to share common spaces and the school yard, reducing the need to duplicate construction or find a new school site. Students and teachers will also have opportunities to build relationships with their new "campus" neighbours.

"We're delighted to plan for the future together," says Battle River Board Chair Norm Erickson. "It makes economic sense, cuts down on duplication of space and allows all staff and students of both school divisions to have a state-of-the-art facility in which to learn and work."

"Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord is excited by the opportunity to be part of this joint project," says Centre-Nord Board Chair Nathalie Lachance. "Our board believes in reducing planning and future construction costs while maximizing resources by having school communities work together. Commonly shared spaces will benefit both schools and the community of Camrose."

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