

Media Release



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

August 30, 2011 – Public School Division takes the lead role in developing community threat assessment and support protocol

Saskatoon Public Schools today signed a protocol with a number of community agencies pledging to work together towards creating safer schools and a healthier community. The protocol is an important addition to the school division's safe and caring schools strategy. The *Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol* supports collaborative planning among the partners who are committed to proactive actions and working together to promote healthy individuals, schools and communities.

“At Saskatoon Public Schools we provide school environments that are safe and caring places where excellence in learning is a priority and everyone feels included,” says Mr. Ray Morrison, Chair of the Board of Education for Saskatoon Public Schools. “We provide a safe and caring atmosphere for our students and our staff, and the kinds of supports the young people in our schools need to be safe and healthy. We are so pleased that a number of community partners are supporting us in this important work. The signing of this protocol represents a year of hard work and commitment to working in collaboration with our community partners.”

The strength of this partnership between a large urban school division and a number of community partners lies in the multi-agency and multi-disciplinary makeup of the *community threat assessment and support team*. Team members will proactively share information and advice and use their broad range of expertise to provide the appropriate supports to our youth and their families.

Partners to the protocol are Saskatoon Public Schools, the Ministry of Education; the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing; Saskatoon Health Region; MD Ambulance; the Saskatoon, Warman and Martensville RCMP; Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services; the Ministry of Social Services; and the Saskatoon Police Service. All partners have committed individuals from their organization to take part in specific training that will support the protocol.

As the new school year begins, parents/guardians/caregivers of all students attending Saskatoon Public schools will receive notification of the protocol which is posted on the *safe and caring schools* page at www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca.

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