

Mary Bergeron Elementary: Name for New School in Edson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - At today's Public Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees was pleased to choose the name for the new elementary school currently being constructed in Edson. Based on three recommendations from a Naming Committee (including Evergreen staff and parent representatives; A.H. Dakin staff and parent representatives; a student representative; Superintendent of Schools and two local Edson trustees) who went through all of the names submitted by the public, trustees chose to name the school after a well-respected and beloved teacher, Mary Mackay Campbell Bergeron.

"We were very happy with the large community response of a number of name suggestions provided to the Committee to consider for our new school," noted Board Chair Brenda Rosadiuk. "It was important that the name mean something to the community as well reflect the division, and we were also hoping that the name would somehow align with the merging of the two schools. Mary was a wonderful choice - one of her supervisors was A.H. Dakin and she also taught at Evergreen School."

Mary was a teacher at Trail School for Edson School Division from 1939-47 (she was the first teacher at Trail). She taught Grade 1 at the Red Brick from 1951-59 where A.H. Dakin was her principal, and then she transferred to Evergreen School to teach Grade 2 from 1959 until she retired in 1980. Mary passed away at the age of 84 on February 6, 2000 in Edson.

The Committee had also recommended to the Board to consider two community members as potential names for the school: Ron Linford or John Switzer. Chair Rosadiuk spoke on behalf of the Board when she noted that all three names were more than worthy of being put forward. "These two gentlemen have also contributed greatly to the Edson Community as well as its schools, and the decision for the school's name was not an easy one." She also sincerely thanked the work of the Naming Committee members for their time in selecting the three names to bring forward to the Board.

An informational plaque about Mary Bergeron will be placed in the foyer of the new school. The elementary school is currently under construction and is scheduled for opening for the 2017-18 school year.



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