



NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday, January 24, 2007

Community makes decision on student uniforms

SASKATOON, Jan. 24, 2007 – Families whose children plan to attend Bethlehem Catholic High School in fall 2007 have determined that student uniforms will not be implemented at the school.

Results of the community's vote were released on Tuesday to students, parents, guardians and families. A total of 344 votes were cast by families who indicated that their child planned to attend Bethlehem. Of those votes, 33 per cent indicated they were in favour of uniforms, 67 per cent were opposed. Eighty per cent of families needed to vote in favour of implementing uniforms for the plan to move forward.

The vote was conducted on Jan. 18 and 19 and votes were tabulated on Monday, Jan. 22.

"We are very pleased that so many families took the time to express their wishes on such an important topic," said Bethlehem Principal Scott Gay.

The vote occurred after several levels of consultation with the future Bethlehem community. Two evening meetings for parents and students were held in January. In addition, Principal Gay and vice-principal Cheryl Thorson visited all Grade 8 classrooms at Bethlehem's neighbourhood schools as well as the Grade 9 classrooms at E. D. Feehan Catholic High School to discuss the issue.

The consultation was organized after the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Board of Education asked the community to consider the possibility of implementing student uniforms at the high school. The consultation process is set out in the school uniform policy passed by the board in June 2006. Among other things, it provides guidelines for how consultation and voting should occur.

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