

North East School Division

402 Main Street PO Box 6000 Melfort, SK SOE 1A0 P: 306-752-5741; F: 306-752-1933 email: divisionoffice@nesd.ca Facebook: NESD X: @nesd200

September 20, 2024

Dear Star City families,

After carefully reviewing input from families and considering the recommendation of the Star City School and Community Council, the North East School Division Board of Education voted on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, to discontinue grades 7-12 at Star City School, effective July 2, 2025. We understand that this decision may be challenging, but please know that we are committed to ensuring a smooth transition and supporting your children, our students, throughout the process.

The decision will take effect at the start of the new 2025-2026 school year, meaning that grade 7-12 students will be bused to either Tisdale or Melfort when classes resume in September 2025. Star City School will continue to operate as a Kindergarten to Grade 12 school for the 2024-2025 school year but will transition to a Kindergarten to Grade 6 school beginning in the 2025-2026 school year and beyond.

The February 2025 and March 2025 Board meetings will allow for time to: propose, gather feedback, and then approve the new attendance boundary which will determine school bus transportation to either Tisdale or Melfort. After the March Board meeting, Transportation staff will provide an email and letter identifying the approved catchment area map.

A transition plan will be shared with all families in April or May outlining transportation plans, orientation dates for next year's school and other details to prepare for the change. If you have concerns or information about your child(ren) that you believe is important for us to consider in the transition, please contact our office. Our staff look forward to working with you in the coming months to make this change a positive opportunity for learning and growth, and to ensure students feel welcome and comfortable in their new environment.

During their community consultation, the Star City School and Community Council (SCC) has shown a strong commitment to providing Star City School students with equitable opportunities in academics, athletics, and social experiences. The Board extends its gratitude to the SCC for their valuable efforts.

Sincerely,

Stacy Lair

NESD Director of Education

Lori Kidney

NESD Board Chair

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Ec Robert Unruh, Principal Star City School Shaun Dancey, SCC Chairperson Star City School Carmen Messer, Principal Tisdale Middle and Secondary School David Painchaud, Principal Melfort and Unit Comprehensive Collegiate Linda Hipkins, Interim NESD Transportation Manager