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For Immediate Release

Lindale School Opening Exercises Adjusted

Lindale School, a PreK-8 school in the Prairie South School Division, has adjusted its morning exercise routine after a directive from Director of Education Tony Baldwin. Lindale School was in the media earlier this year after Prairie South Trustees voted to direct recitation of the Lord's Prayer at the school in January.

Baldwin commented Thursday on his decision to have the practice adjusted. "After reviewing the practice at Lindale, I realized that we were likely on the wrong side of the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code," Baldwin said. "I am pleased with the new process that honours the Board's direction related to the Lord's Prayer and also meets the needs of all of the children at Lindale School." Baldwin explained that the school would no longer be broadcasting the Lord's Prayer over the public address system as part of the morning routine, and that students would instead have the opportunity to recite the Lord's Prayer or a different passage, reflect on the day to come, or prepare to learn in any other way that had personal meaning.

Baldwin explained that the Board's January direction was intact. "As far as I know, the Board continues to support the opportunity for students to recite the Lord's Prayer at Lindale School," Baldwin said. "Lindale School continues to be the only public school in Moose Jaw where students have the opportunity to recite the Lord's Prayer as part of a schoolwide opening exercise."

Baldwin expressed disappointment about the media frenzy surrounding the change. "Lindale School has been in the spotlight connected to this issue, and the attention has not all been positive," Baldwin said. "This is an amazing school with great kids and a committed staff; I hope we can move forward and talk about some of the great things that are happening here."

Section 182 of *The Education Act (1995)* describes the responsibilities of boards of education related to the recitation of the Lord's Prayer at the beginning of the school day.