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## Media Release

January 12, 2016 – For Immediate Release

### **New Pre-K Program at Humboldt Public School**

**Humboldt, SK** – Horizon School Division is pleased to officially announce a new Pre-Kindergarten program coming to Humboldt Public School (HPS) in 2016. This will be the eighth Pre-K program in Horizon and second at HPS. It is being relocated from one of the two programs at Punnichy Elementary Community School (PECS), where the need will now be met by a single program. Demand for additional Pre-K services has recently grown in Humboldt and will be met by the addition of this second program.

The new Pre-K at HPS will run in the afternoon (12:50 – 3:10 PM), in addition to the morning program already in place. The programs are focused on vulnerable children and encourage early parental contact with the school system. Plans are in place to host monthly Family Days that will involve activities for both children and parents/caregivers to participate in.

“We identified the need for additional Pre-K services in the Humboldt area at the same time as we were seeing a decline in need for two Pre-K programs in Punnichy,” said Horizon Director of Education, Kevin Garinger. “This move allows us to support our communities where that support is most critical. Of course, this program would not be possible without the support we have received from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Services, Saskatoon Public Health, Humboldt Regional Newcomers Centre, the HPS Child Care Center and our various other community partners.”

The Ministry-supported program will be staffed by a fully qualified teacher and an educational assistant. Bussing will be available for all children attending. The program has room for 16 children and is currently fully utilized.

Those interested in having their child added to the waiting list for the program can submit a registration form. Forms are available from Saskatoon Public Health, Humboldt Regional Newcomers Center, HPS Child Care Center and HPS.

The HPS afternoon Pre-K program will enjoy its first day on January 18, 2016.

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