



Press Release

10/29/2018 – PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, Big Brothers and Big Sisters & Gladstone Elementary School

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Portage la Prairie is pleased to announce the expansion of the In School Mentoring program to Gladstone Elementary School.

The In School Mentoring program pairs up teen volunteers from William Morton Collegiate Institute with children from Gladstone Elementary School for one lunch hour a week for the school year. They spend the time eating, playing games and talking. Teens who participate in this program are able to work towards a volunteer credit as well as receive a reference for future school and job applications. As of Oct. 22 we have ten teens that have expressed interest in mentoring.

Expanding into Gladstone is made possible through grants from The Boston Pizza Foundation and United Way Central Plains.

“We are very excited to bring the In School Mentoring program to Gladstone. Assisting children to achieve more is what this program is about.” Dawn Froese, Executive Director Big Brothers Big Sisters

“ I am really excited that the students will have the opportunity to take part in the Big Brother/Big Sister program as I have seen the impact it has had on kids and I am looking forward to working with the organization to get as many kids involved as we can” Teresa Wright, Guidance Counsellor, Gladstone Schools

For more Information please contact:

Big Brothers Big Sisters: Dawn Froese (204) 857-4397

Gladstone Elementary School: Teresa Wright (204) 385-2767

Research shows that Youth who are matched with a mentor are:

48% less likely to have behaviour problems in school

43% less likely to have conduct problems in school

34% less likely to allow themselves to be victimized or bullied by peers

2x more likely to have high levels of school bonding and commitment

2x more likely to have high academic achievement

2.5x more likely to participate in extra-curricular school activities