

## POLICY 3.40 FRENCH IMMERSION

The Board of Education recognizes the lifelong cognitive, social, and career benefits of learning French, as an official language of Canada and supports the provision of French Immersion programs where enrollment, facilities and teacher availability permit.

The Board supports an Early French Immersion Program as an educational option and program of choice in the District, with the goal of providing the opportunity for students to become functionally bilingual in English and French.

### Guidelines

1. Provided enrollment, facilities and teacher availability permit, French Immersion programming will be offered from Kindergarten to Grade 12.
2. To ensure continuity, predictability and a smooth operation of both French Immersion and English programs, the Board reserves the right to limit enrollment when facilities and staffing issues impact delivery of programming. If significant changes to the program are contemplated, the Board will consult and provide appropriate notice.
3. Students who wish to enroll in French Immersion who are beyond Kindergarten without previous French Immersion exposure may be admitted to a program if they are able to demonstrate the required skills and abilities.
  - 3.1. Once admitted, the student's progress will be reviewed and a decision may be made regarding continued placement within the program.
4. Students from outside the School District who have French Immersion experience will be given priority placement in French Immersion if and when space becomes available.
5. Students who leave French Immersion may be able to receive some credits for core French through a challenge or equivalency process.