



Date of Meeting: 2020 January 28

Item #: 12.d

REPORT TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Council <input type="checkbox"/> Program and School Services Advisory Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Working Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
	For Board Meetings: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC <input type="checkbox"/> IN-CAMERA
TITLE OF REPORT:	English Kindergarten in French Immersion Schools Application Process
PRESENTED BY: (list ONLY those attending the meeting)	Marion Moynihan, Superintendent of Student Achievement Andrea Marlowe, Diversity and Equity Coordinator
PRESENTED FOR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Input/Advice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
Recommendation(s): (only required when presented for approval)	
Purpose:	To provide an update to Trustees on the application process for English Kindergarten in French Immersion Schools.
Content:	<p>On December 17th, 2019, the Board of Trustees approved English Kindergarten Programming in several French Immersion (FI) Schools commencing September 2020. Due to space limitations, the maximum number of classes (to be reviewed annually) to be offered at each of the approved sites in 2020-2021 has been capped, as indicated below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Éva Circé-Côté French Immersion Public School, 2 classrooms • J.S. Buchanan French Immersion Public School, 2 classrooms • Jeanne Sauvé French Immersion Public School, 1 classroom • Kensal Park French Immersion Public School, 3 classrooms • Lord Roberts French Immersion Public School, 1 classroom • Louise Arbour French Immersion Public School, 4 classrooms • Pierre Elliott Trudeau French Immersion Public School, 2 classrooms • Princess Anne French Immersion Public School, 1 classroom • West Oaks French Immersion Public School, 2 classrooms <p><u>Application Process:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For students to be eligible to attend English-language Kindergarten at their designated French Immersion elementary school, a student must first register for Kindergarten at their designated English-language school. Parents/Guardians are to complete the online pre-registration for the Kindergarten program at the designated home English-language school for the 2020-2021 school year. As part of the online pre-registration process, parents/guardians will be asked to declare their intention to enrol their child in the French Immersion Program in Grade 1. 2. English-language schools sent parents/guardians of their current Kindergarten Year 1 (K1) students standardized messaging informing them of the opportunity to apply for their child to attend English-

	<p>language Kindergarten Year 2 (K2) in their designated French Immersion school using the application form.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. All registrants who declare an intention to register for French Immersion, upon attending at the home English-language school to provide supporting documentation, will receive the <i>Designated French Immersion School English Kindergarten Program Application Form</i>. The form must be completed in-person at, or returned to, the home English-language school between January 20 and February 7, 2020. 4. Application forms will be sent electronically to French Immersion elementary schools after the close of the Kindergarten registration period. 5. Principals of designated French Immersion schools will meet with a System Review Committee after the close of registration to consider all applications for the English-language Kindergarten Program. The Committee and Principals will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify any applicants who qualify for priority admission based on exceptional medical or other support needs; • Select all other applicants using a random selection process to fill all remaining program placements, respecting agreed upon class sizes and ensuring a balanced ratio of K1/K2 students in each classroom, where possible. <p>The System Review Committee may include a Superintendent and/or staff representation from the following portfolios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French Immersion/FI Review • Early Years • Special Education • Professional Services (psychology/social work) • AODA/Accessibility • Equity 6. All applicants whose random selection does not afford them a placement due to space limitations, will remain registered at their designated English-language school and be placed on a Waiting List for the English-language program at their designated French Immersion school according to the position already assigned through the random selection process. 7. Principals of French Immersion elementary schools will communicate admission decisions in writing to parents/guardians and to home English-language schools on or before April 1, 2020. 8. Parents/Guardians of K1 children who are not admitted to the English-language Kindergarten program at their designated French Immersion school may re-apply in the subsequent year for K2 admission. However, K1 students admitted to the program will be given priority admission for K2, as space permits, if their parents/guardians wish them to continue in the program.
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	We have posted frequently asked questions and responses to the TVDSB website (see the attached appendix). This information will be periodically updated.
Cost/Savings:	N/A
Timeline:	
Communications:	
Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequently Asked Questions: Application for English Kindergarten in Designated French Immersion Schools, 2020-2021

Strategic Priority Area(s):

Relationships:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students, families and staff are welcomed, respected and valued as partners. <input type="checkbox"/> Promote and build connections to foster mutually respectful communication among students, families, staff and the broader community. <input type="checkbox"/> Create opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.
Equity and Diversity:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create opportunities for equitable access to programs and services for students. <input type="checkbox"/> Students and all partners feel heard, valued and supported. <input type="checkbox"/> Programs and services embrace the culture and diversity of students and all partners.
Achievement and Well-Being:	<input type="checkbox"/> More students demonstrate growth and achieve student learning outcomes with a specific focus on numeracy and literacy. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff will demonstrate excellence in instructional practices. <input type="checkbox"/> Enhance the safety and well-being of students and staff.

Form Revised June 2019



January 24, 2020

**Frequently Asked Questions:
Application for English Kindergarten in Designated French Immersion Schools
2020-2021**

1. Q: Is there a limit on the number of students who can attend English Kindergarten in French Immersion schools?

A: Enrollment limitations have been determined for the 2020-2021 school year based on the amount of space available at French Immersion schools. Space availability will be reviewed annually. Enrollment is limited to 26 students in each classroom with balanced numbers of K1 and K2 students. The maximum number of classes available for English Kindergarten programming at each of the nine designated French Immersion schools is:

- Éva Circé-Côté French Immersion Public School, 2 classrooms
- J.S. Buchanan French Immersion Public School, 2 classrooms
- Jeanne Sauvé French Immersion Public School, 1 classroom
- Kensal Park French Immersion Public School, 3 classrooms
- Lord Roberts French Immersion Public School, 1 classroom
- Louise Arbour French Immersion Public School, 4 classrooms
- Pierre Elliott Trudeau French Immersion Public School, 2 classrooms
- Princess Anne French Immersion Public School, 1 classroom
- West Oaks French Immersion Public School, 2 classrooms

2. Q: How do I know which French Immersion school my child is eligible to attend for English Kindergarten programming?

A: Students may only apply to attend English Kindergarten at their designated French Immersion school based on the student's home address. You can use the [school locator tool](#) on the Thames Valley District School Board's website to find your designated French Immersion school.

3. Q: I would like my children to go to the same school – are siblings of current French Immersion students given priority in the admission process?

A: Thames Valley Senior Administration has thoroughly reviewed the issue from legal and policy perspectives and determined that providing priority to siblings would create inequality of access to English Kindergarten at French Immersion schools. Due to extremely limited spaces at some schools, providing priority to siblings may completely deny access to other students.

Therefore, Thames Valley's admission process will be made strictly on the basis of random selection – with exceptions being made for medical or other support needs. This process is both procedurally fair and consistent with the Board's commitment to equity and inclusion.

At the present time, all children are welcome to register for French Immersion in Grade 1 when age-appropriate.

4. Q: Will I increase my child's chances of being admitted if I apply early?

A: No. All applications submitted during the Kindergarten registration period from January 20 – February 7 will proceed through the same admission process after the close of the registration period.

5. Q: What will happen if my child is not randomly selected? Is there a Waiting List?

A: All applicants who submit their applications during the Kindergarten registration period (January 20 – February 7, 2020), who are not admitted through the random selection process, will be automatically placed on a Waiting List in order of random selection.

6. Q: If my child is on the Waiting List, must my child be in attendance in Kindergarten at their designated home English school to be offered a place if one becomes available during the school year?

A: Yes. Your child will have already registered for Kindergarten at their home English school through the registration process and must be in attendance to be offered a place in the English Kindergarten Program at their French Immersion school.

7. Q: If my child is admitted to the English Kindergarten Program at their French Immersion school for K1, are they guaranteed a place in the Program for K2?

A: Although all K1 students in the Program will be given priority for K2 admission for the 2021-2022 school year, space availability for the Program will be reviewed annually; therefore, admission cannot be guaranteed.

8. Q: Will bussing be provided for students attending English Kindergarten in French Immersion schools?

A: Bussing will be provided to students who meet the eligibility criteria for transportation for elementary students in Thames Valley. More information can be found on the [Transportation page](#) of the Thames Valley District School Board's website. To verify eligibility for transportation or apply for special transportation please contact Southwestern Ontario Student Transportation Services at 519-649-1160.

9. Q. If my child is currently enrolled in Year 2 Kindergarten in a French Immersion school, is it necessary to register for Grade 1 French Immersion?

A: No. If your child is currently enrolled in Year 2 Kindergarten in the French Immersion Program, your child will automatically be registered for Grade 1 French Immersion for September 2020.