

Public Schools Branch
OPERATIONAL POLICY

FRENCH IMMERSION

<i>Policy Section</i> Programs and Services	<i>Policy Number</i> 408
<i>Pages</i> 1 of 3	<i>Approved Date</i> February 21, 2018
<i>Reviewed Date</i>	<i>Effective Date</i> February 21, 2018
<i>Replaces:</i> ESD - IHBE & IHBE-R, French Immersion, June 14, 2007 WSB - #30, French Language Programming, February 16, 2009	

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To identify French Immersion programming opportunities and to establish the school attendance zones for students registering in a French Immersion program.

2.0 POLICY STATEMENT

- 2.1 The Public Schools Branch recognizes the value in providing students an opportunity to become proficient in both official languages. The Public Schools Branch offers Early and Late French Immersion programs at various schools throughout the Branch, where sufficient resources and enrolment numbers exist. The Public Schools Branch reserves the right to establish new classes or terminate offerings where numbers and resources warrant.

3.0 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- 3.1 In accordance with the *Education Act*, the Public Schools Branch shall determine the placement of students in the various classes and schools in accordance with the student's needs, their educational attainments, the facilities of the system and any school attendance plan currently in effect in the system.
- 3.2 The attendance zone for a new or existing French Immersion program shall be determined by the Public Schools Branch in consultation with the principal of the affected school.
- 3.3 Dates for registration in Early and Late French Immersion programs shall be determined by the Public Schools Branch.
- 3.4 The Public Schools Branch shall provide parent information regarding French Immersion programming.
- 3.5 The instructional time in French, as determined by the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture, shall be monitored and adhered to in each of the authorized French Immersion programs.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

- 4.1 French Immersion – French Immersion is a form of bilingual education in which a student who does not speak French as his/her first language receives instruction in school in French.
- 4.2 Early French Immersion – Early French Immersion begins in kindergarten and continues through grade 12. After grade 6 this program is referred to as Continuing French Immersion.
- 4.3 Mid French Immersion – Mid French Immersion begins in grade 4 and continues through grade 12. This program is offered only at Gulf Shore Consolidated School and has the status of an ongoing local pilot authorized by the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture.
- 4.4 Late French Immersion – Late French Immersion begins in grade 7 and continues through grade 12.
- 4.5 School Attendance Zone – A defined geographical area within the Public Schools Branch which identifies where children will attend school.

5.0 REGISTRATION

- 5.1 A student shall register for French Immersion in accordance with this policy.
- 5.2 Where French Immersion is not offered in a Family of Schools, a student may apply to attend French Immersion in another Family of Schools through the *Student Transfer Procedure*. The capacity of the school and the class size will be a consideration – See section 6.0 re transportation.
- 5.3 Where a parent wishes to register their child in Early French Immersion, and where it has been determined by the Public Schools Branch that a case conference is necessary for the child's transition to Kindergarten, the suitability of French Immersion programming will be discussed with the parent.
- 5.4 Where a parent wishes to register their child in Mid or Late French Immersion, the student's teacher(s) will review the student's profile and discuss with the parents the suitability of French Immersion programming.
- 5.5 The high school French Immersion program in grades 10-12 is designed to accommodate a student in Early, Mid or Late French Immersion.

6.0 TRANSPORTATION

- 6.1 Transportation for a student in French Immersion is provided to the zoned French Immersion School within their Family of Schools, where a bus route currently exists.
- 6.2 Where a student has been approved to attend French Immersion in a school outside their Family of Schools, the parent/guardian is responsible for transporting their student to and from school or to the nearest access point.
- 6.3 If a student wishes to access bussing outside his/her school attendance zone (i.e. at the nearest access point), the parent is required to complete the *Out of Zone School Bus Transportation Request form* annually and follow the process noted on the form.

7.0 LATE ENTRY/EARLY DEPARTURE

- 7.1 A request for a student to enter the French Immersion program outside of the entry points noted in section 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4 will be considered in rare situations, on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the French Immersion Late Entry Guideline and requires careful consultation between the parent, school and Public Schools Branch.

- 7.2 A student registered in French Immersion is expected to complete the program. Consideration for a student to discontinue in the program will be in accordance with the process identified in the *Support for Success in French Immersion Guideline* and requires careful consultation between the parent, school and Public Schools Branch.
- 7.3 A student who discontinues in the French Immersion program and who is attending a school outside their English school attendance zone, is expected to return to the school in their English school attendance zone. A request to remain out-of-zone must be made through the Student Transfer Procedure which outlines the criteria for considering an out-of-zone transfer request.

8.0 APPENDICES

- 8.1 Appendix A - French Immersion Attendance Zones

9.0 CROSS REFERENCE

- 9.1 *Education Act*
- 9.2 Board Governance Policy GP 12 - Establishment of School Attendance Zones
- 9.3 Operational Procedure – 401.1 Student Transfer
- 9.4 Out Of Zone School Bus Transportation Request Form
- 9.5 French Immersion Late Entry Guideline
- 9.6 Support for Success in French Immersion Guideline

Appendix A - French Immersion Attendance Zones

Family of Schools	Elementary School	Early French Immersion School	Late and/or Continuing French
Three Oaks Family of Schools	Elm Street (K-6)	Elm Street	Summerside Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • No Late French Immersion • Students wanting Late French Immersion can access programming at Kensington Intermediate Senior High
	Athena (K-9)	Early French Immersion (K-6)	
	Greenfield (K-6)	Greenfield Early French Immersion (K-6)	
	Parkside (K-6)	Parkside Early French Immersion (K-6)	
	Miscouche (K-9)		
Kinkora Family of Schools	Somerset (K-8)		Kensington Intermediate Senior High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late French Immersion (7-12) • No Continuing French Immersion (7-9)
	Amherst Cove (K-8)		
Kensington Family of Schools	Queen Elizabeth (K-6)		Kensington Intermediate Senior High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late French Immersion (7-12) • No Continuing French Immersion (7-9)
	Queen Elizabeth (K-6)		
Westisle Family of Schools	Bloomfield (K-6)	Bloomfield Early French Immersion (K-6)	Hernewood Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • No Late French Immersion
	Ellerslie, (K-6)		
	O'Leary (K-6)		
	Alberton (K-6) *Students residing in Cascumpec, Brooklyn, and Rosebank		ME Callaghan Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • No Late French Immersion
	St. Louis (K-6)	St. Louis Early French Immersion (K-6)	
	Alberton (K-6) *Students NOT residing in Cascumpec, Brooklyn, and Rosebank		
	Tignish (K-6)	Tignish Early French Immersion (K-6)	
Charlottetown Family of Schools	Donagh (K-6)	Glen Stewart Early French Immersion (K-3) Stratford Early French Immersion (4-6)	Stonepark Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9)
	Glen Stewart (K-3)	Glen Stewart Early Immersion (K-3) Stratford Early French Immersion (4-6)	Birchwood Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9)
	Sherwood (K-6)	Sherwood Early French Immersion (K-6)	Stonepark Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9)
	LM Montgomery (K-6)		
	Parkdale (K-6) *Students residing in the Brackley & Brackley Beach Areas	Sherwood Early French Immersion (K-6)	Birchwood Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9) *Students residing in the Downtown Charlottetown Area
	Parkdale (K-6) *Students residing in the Downtown Charlottetown Area	West Kent Early French Immersion (K-6)	
	Prince Street (K-6)	West Kent Early French Immersion (K-6)	
		Stonepark Intermediate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9) *Students residing in the Hillsborough Area	

	West Royalty (K-6)	Spring Park Early French Immersion (K-6)	Queen Charlotte Intermediate • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9)
	Spring Park (K-6)		
	West Kent (K-6)	West Kent Early French Immersion (K-6)	
	St. Jean (K-6)	West Kent Early French Immersion (K-6)	Queen Charlotte Intermediate • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9) *Students residing in the Downtown Charlottetown Area Stonepark Intermediate • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9) *Students residing in the Hillsborough Area
Souris School Family	Souris Regional (K-12)	**A parent/guardian can register their student in Early or Late French Immersion at a school of their choice through the Student Transfer process - subject to PSB approval. Student transportation to/from school is the parent's/guardian's responsibility.	
Montague Family of Schools	Belfast (K-9)	Montague Consolidated Early French Immersion (K-6)	Montague Intermediate • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • No Late French Immersion
	Cardigan (K-6)		
	Georgetown (K-8)		
	Montague Con. (K-6)		
	Southern Kings (K-8)		
Vernon River (K-9)			
Morell Family of Schools	Morell Con. (K-8)	**A parent/guardian can register their student in Early or Late French Immersion at a school of their choice through the Student Transfer process - subject to PSB approval. Student transportation to/from school is the parent's/guardian's responsibility.	
	Mt. Stewart (K-8)		
Bluefield Family of Schools	Central Queens (K-6)	Westwood	East Wiltshire Intermediate • Continuing French Immersion (7-9) • Late French Immersion (7-9)
	Gulf Shore (K-9)	Early French Immersion (K-3)	
	Englewood (K-9)	Eliot River	
	Westwood (K-3)	Early French Immersion (4-6)	
	Gulf Shore (K-9)	Gulf Shore (4-9) Mid French Immersion	

**** Where Early, Late or Continuing French Immersion is not available in a Family of Schools, a parent/guardian can register their student at a school of their choice, which offers the appropriate level of French Immersion programming, through the Student Transfer process - subject to PSB approval. Student transportation to and from school is the parent's/guardian's responsibility**