

Report No. 11-07-1182
RTS No. 286**TORONTO DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD****PLACEMENT IN SENIOR KINDERGARTEN FRENCH IMMERSION****TO** Program and School Services Ctte 14 November 2007**RECOMMENDATION IT IS RECOMMENDED**

- 1. That a protocol for placement in Senior Kindergarten French Immersion programs be established to address circumstances where all applicants cannot be placed in the host school;**
- 2. That, where an additional site is opened, the protocol require placement of students by proximity of their home school to the host school and additional site;**
- 3. That, where placement by proximity is not possible because there is no space to add an additional site in the catchment area or all applicants are from the host school, the protocol allow for placement by lottery; and**
- 4. That the protocol make provision for priority placement of siblings.**

RATIONALE In October 2007, the Board decided to expand opportunities for students to have access to Senior Kindergarten French Immersion programs for September 2008.

The Board approved a protocol that requires staff to make every effort to accommodate all applicants in the French Immersion program, consistent with the Board's policy. The protocol establishes a series of steps to ensure that students will be placed in the host school or at an additional site in the geographic area.

Despite the best efforts of staff to create additional spaces in the host school, circumstances may arise where a class is opened in another program site. If this occurs, staff will need to determine an appropriate way to decide which specific students are placed at the host school or at the other program site.

Appendix A sets out a recommended protocol for resolving placement of applicants in either the host school or the additional site, where necessary.

RESOURCES No additional resources are required to implement the protocol.

**IMPLEMENTATION
AND REVIEW**

APPENDICES n/a

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ROUTING	Executive Planning and Priorities Ctte	6 November 2007
	Program and School Services Ctte	14 November 2007
	Board	28 November 2007

E03(fr imm kindergarten proximity – lottery v2)ns
Last update: 9 November 20

Appendix A

Protocol for Placement of Senior Kindergarten Students in French Immersion Programs**Issue**

Placement of students in Senior Kindergarten French Immersion programs, where students must be placed at either a host school or an additional program site.

Background Information

On 30 October 2007 the Board made decisions to expand opportunities for students to access Senior Kindergarten French Immersion programs for September 2008.

The Board decided that:

- where applications exceed the number of places in designated classes, every effort will be made to create new classes in the host school.
- where new classes cannot be created in the host school, new classes will be created in another school.

Options

Before consideration of these options, it is important to note that:

- Staff will continue to make best efforts to place all students who apply to the host program.
- All students would be offered a program; these options affect only *where* students would be placed.

Option 1: Placement by geographic proximity of the home school to the French Immersion program

Implication: This approach would give priority placement in the host program to students whose home school is nearest to the host school program or to the additional site. A designated host school has an associated group of English feeder schools that determines the French catchment area; it does not provide exclusive access to students whose home school is the host school.

Option 2: Placement by lottery

Implication: This is not a lottery to prevent students from accessing a program but only to ensure equitable access to the host school for applicants from all feeder schools in the catchment area.

Where placement by proximity is not possible because there is no space in the catchment area to expand the program or all applicants are from the host school, a lottery would be used to determine placement in the host school or the additional site.

Protocol

The following steps will be followed, in order of priority, to determine the placement of applicants in a host school or, where necessary, an additional site:

1. Place applicants in the host school who are siblings of students already in the host school.
2. Wherever possible, place all other applicants in the host school, by adjustment of the staffing model and/or creation of new classes in the host school.
3. Where Step 2 does not allow placement of all applicants from the French catchment area in the host school and an additional site is opened, place applicants by proximity of their home school to the host school and the additional site.
4. Where Step 3 does not resolve placement because there is no space to open an additional site in the catchment area or all applicants are from the host school (and thus are equally proximate), place applicants in the host school and additional site by lottery.

Note: Steps 3 and 4 do not apply to applicants already placed under step 1 (siblings).

When an additional site is established, the boundaries of the catchment area for the additional site will be redrawn for placement in subsequent school years.

5. Every effort will be made to place any remaining students in an established nearby French Immersion program with available space.