



Annual Enrolment in Early and Middle French Immersion Programs 2024/2025 and Core French Programs 2023/2024

To: Program and School Services Committee

Date: 23 October, 2024

Report No.: 10-24-4781

Strategic Directions

- Commit to the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action.
- Belong - All students belong, are engaged, and valued in an inclusive environment.
- Achieve - All students reach high levels of achievement, success, and personal development.
- Revitalize - All students and staff learn and work in inclusive, safe, and modern environments.

Equity as a guiding principle: Equity is foundational to all TDSB work and will be embedded throughout the strategic directions.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Annual Enrolment in Early and Middle French Immersion Programs 2024/2025 and Core French Programs 2023/2024 be received.

Context

In line with the Multi-Year Strategic Plan and the French-as-a-Second Language Review Recommendations, ensuring equitable access to Intensive French programs remains a top priority. The Early French Immersion program has been a part of Toronto schools since the early 1970s, starting in a few schools and expanding significantly over the years. At the time of amalgamation, the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) had 41 Early French Immersion entry sites. In 2009, Operational Procedure PR597 was implemented, allowing all families who apply by a specified deadline to enroll in Early French Immersion or Junior Extended French programs, while also establishing

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guidelines for program expansion. Since then, 38 new sites have opened to meet the increasing demand. Meanwhile, the Junior Extended French program launched in 2004 with seven schools and has since grown to 39 sites. In September 2021, following recommendations from the French Review, the Middle French Immersion program (beginning in Grade 4) was introduced in 40 locations, coinciding with the gradual phase-out of the Junior Extended French program. Currently, both Early French Immersion and Middle French Immersion programs are available to serve every residential address within the TDSB.

Both Early French Immersion and Middle French Immersion are designed as French-as-a-Second Language (FSL) programs, where French is not only taught as a subject but also serves as the language of instruction for other subjects. In these programs, French must be the language of instruction for at least 50% of the total instructional time at every grade level. Presently, this represents 10% of students in the TDSB.

In Ontario, Core French is mandatory for all students in English-language elementary schools from Grades 4 to 8. Policy requirements specify that students entering Grade 4 must receive French instruction each year through Grade 8, accumulating at least 600 hours of French by the end of Grade 8. Additionally, one mandatory Core French credit is required in Grade 9.

However, over the last several years, the shortage of French teachers has posed a significant challenge for school boards across the province, and Canada, impacting language acquisition and cultural exposure for students. This gap not only affects classroom dynamics but also limits opportunities for students to become proficient in an additional language. To effectively address staffing shortages, it is essential to implement a multifaceted approach that includes many diverse initiatives (e.g., enhanced recruitment strategies, improved employee retention programs, collaborative partnerships with universities, changes in Operational Procedure PR597, etc.).

ENROLMENT: In 2024, there are 14,599 Junior Kindergarten (JK) students, of whom, 2,967 pre-JK applied for the Early French Immersion program, with 2,462 accepting placements (i.e., reserved) for September 2024. This represents 20% of the JK cohort in 2024. For September 2024, there are 79 Early French Immersion sites. To enhance geographical accessibility, and to address accommodation pressures in the mid-town area of the City, one new Early French Immersion site, Bannockburn PS, has been opened, which helps reduce catchment areas while improving access and distributing programs more evenly across the system.

In 2023, there were 14,353 Grade 3 students, of whom 1,133 applied for Grade 4 Middle French Immersion, with 750 accepting placements (i.e., reserving) for September 2024. This represents 5% of the Grade 3 cohort in 2023. By comparison, in 2022, there were 14,699 Grade 3 students, with 1,223 applying and 776 accepting placements for September 2023, also amounting to 5%. For September 2024, there are 40 Middle French Immersion sites.

All on-time applicants for Early French Immersion (JK entry for 2024) and Grade 4 Middle French Immersion (for 2024) are offered placements in the respective programs, and there are currently no waitlists across the system. While every effort is made to place students in their designated Early French Immersion or Middle French Immersion schools, this is not always possible. In cases where the number of applications in a given area is greater than the number of allotted program spaces in the school, redirection is the process by which applicants are accommodated. The guiding principles for redirection include grouping students by their designated English school and directing them to the nearest Early or Middle French Immersion site with available program space. In Appendix A, if a fraction appears in the “Redirection” column, the denominator shows the number of students redirected to a school different from their assigned French program school according to Operational Procedure PR597. The numerator indicates the number of accepted placements resulting from redirection. For September 2024, less than 10% of applicants were redirected to another nearby Early French Immersion site; no redirections occurred in Middle French Immersion.

While the tables in the appendix provide enrolment numbers at the entry level, the final table in this report details the total enrolment in these programs from JK to Grade 12. Please note that in the attached charts, “Accepted” refers to the number of students whose parents/guardians/caregivers have reserved a placement in the program. This figure may fluctuate between the application deadline and September enrolment.

Action Plan and Associated Timeline

The staff is committed to implementing the action items for French Immersion as part of the Long-Term Planning and Accommodation Strategy.

Resource Implications

No resource implications identified at this time.

Communications Considerations

This current annual report was shared with the French-as-a-Second Language Community Advisory Committee (FSLCAC) in draft on October 15, 2024.

Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)

[PR597: French Immersion/Extended French](#)

[P080: French-as-a-Second Language](#)

Appendices

- Appendix A: Enrolment Data in Early/Middle French Immersion 2024/2025 and Core French Programs 2023/2024

From

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**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

Early French Immersion

(Junior Kindergarten Entry – September 2024)

School Name	Total # of Applicants	# Sibling Applicants	# Accepted Placements	# Accepted from English Catchment	# Accepted from Feeder Schools	Number of Projected JK/SK Classes	School Configuration	Redirection
Adam Beck Jr PS	32	12	27	25	2	2	JK-5	None
Alexander Stirling PS	17	2	15	2	13	1	JK-8	None
Allenby Jr PS	40	12	46	38	8	2.5	JK-6	None
Bannockburn PS*	27	0	24	0	24	1	JK-6	None
Beverly Glen Jr PS	26	5	23	5	18	1.5	JK-6	None
Birch Cliff PS	36	8	26	16	10	2	JK-8	8 to Clairlea 6/8 Taylor Creek
Blake Street Jr PS	63	9	25	23	2	2	JK-6	11 to Earl Beatty 3/11 Roden 16 to RH McGregor 2/10 Wilkinson 4/6 William Burgess 9 Withrow 7/9 Franklin
Bowmore Road Jr & Sr PS	56	11	41	38	3	3	JK-8	14 to Duke of Connaught 2/4 Kew Beach 5/10 Norway
Brian PS	47	12	40	11	29	3	JK-5	None

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

Brimwood Blvd Jr PS	13	2	11	0	11	1	JK-6	None
Broadacres JS	24	7	21	5	16	1	JK-5	None
Broadlands PS	38	6	33	0	33	2	JK-5	None
Brookhaven PS	30	5	30	6	24	1	JK-5	None
Brown Jr PS	25	6	32	22	10	2	JK-6	None
Carleton Village Jr & Sr SW Academy	66	15	33	22	11	2	JK-8	32 to George Syme 5/5 Dennis 2/2 Cordella 2/2 Harwood 2/5 Silverthorn 3/18 General Mercer
Chief Dan George PS	17	2	14	2	12	1	JK-8	None
Clairlea PS	35	6	32	8	24	1.5	JK-8	None
Cliffwood PS	28	6	25	10	15	2	JK-5	None
Corvette Jr PS	33	7	30	5	25	1.5	JK-6	None
Dallington PS	55	10	53	10	43	2.5	JK-5	None
Davisville Jr PS	74	12	51	27	24	2.5	JK-6	12 to Allenby 2/5 Maurice Cody 5/7 Oriole Park
Derrydown PS	26	4	29	9	20	1	JK-5	None
Dewson Jr PS	37	12	39	5	34	2	JK-6	None
Duke of Connaught Jr & Sr PS	32	12	38	28	10	2	JK-8	None
Dundas Jr PS	61	7	74	28	46	3	JK-5	None
Dunlace PS	26	3	23	6	17	1.5	JK-6	None
Earl Beatty Jr & Sr PS	40	10	37	16	21	2	JK-8	None
Earl Haig PS	30	7	23	23	0	2	JK-8	6 to Earl Beatty

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

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Ellesmere Statton PS	29	6	26	5	21	1.5	JK-8	None
Elmlea JS	34	9	28	3	25	2	JK-5	None
Fern Ave Jr & Sr PS	28	16	27	25	2	2	JK-8	None
Fraser Mustard Early Learning Academy	27	0	25	25	0	2	JK-SK	None
General Crerar PS	14	2	11	1	10	1	JK-8	None
George B Little PS	24	3	16	3	13	1	JK-8	None
George Syme CS	51	6	38	3	35	1.5	JK-8	None
Gledhill Jr PS	27	5	26	26	0	2	JK-6	None
Glen Park PS	43	6	48	10	38	2.5	JK-6	None
Gracedale PS	11	0	8	4	4	1	JK-5	None
Howard Jr PS	37	14	27	26	1	2	JK-6	10 to George Syme 0/10 Howard
Humbercrest PS	25	10	25	25	0	2	JK-8	None
Humewood CS	49	14	45	36	9	3	JK-8	None
Islington JMS	38	5	27	14	13	2	JK-8	
Jackman Ave Jr PS	32	13	32	32	0	2	JK-6	None
John English JMS	51	9	45	13	32	3	JK-8	None
John Fisher Jr PS	47	10	46	15	31	3	JK-6	None
Kingsview Village Jr PS	23	1	13	4	9	1	JK-5	None
Lester B. Pearson ES	64	16	40	0	40	3	JK-8	8 to Dallington 6/8 Elkhorn 13 to Owen 11/13 Avondale
Lord Lansdowne Jr PS	69	12	70	0	70	3.5	JK-6	None

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

Mason Road Jr PS	13	1	11	4	7	1	JK-6	None
Melody Village JS	34	6	32	0	32	2	JK-8	None
Millwood JS	43	16	37	12	25	2.5	JK-5	None
Morse St Jr PS	34	4	33	17	16	2	JK-6	None
North Agincourt JPS	25	11	23	6	17	1.5	JK-6	None
Northlea EMS	35	12	32	28	4	2	JK-8	None
O'Connor PS	18	4	15	2	13	1	JK-5	None
Owen PS	30	9	38	23	15	2	JK-6	None
Palmerston Ave Jr PS	37	8	27	26	1	2	JK-6	10 to Dewson 7/10 to Essex
Parkdale Jr & Sr Ps	52	9	40	16	24	2	JK-8	None
Pauline Johnson Jr PS	34	2	21	4	17	1.5	JK-6	None
Perth Ave Jr PS	41	5	30	30	0	2	JK-6	10 to Regal Road 2/10 Indian Road
Rawlinson CS	101	23	56	41	15	4	JK-8	31 to Brookhaven 6/18 Fairbank Memorial 12/13 JR Wilcox 8 to Glen Park 2/8 Cedarvale
Regal Road Jr PS	50	12	41	22	19	2.5	JK-6	None
RH McGregor ES	45	17	45	41	4	3	JK-5	None
Rockford PS	52	9	34	25	9	2	JK-6	11 to Glen Park 3/6 Wilmington 5/5 Faywood
Rosethorn JS	37	6	33	18	15	2	JK-5	None
Runnymede Jr & Sr PS	56	17	50	46	4	4	JK-8	None

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

Second Street JMS	47	13	33	16	17	2	JK-8	None
Secord ES	35	13	29	29	0	2	JK-5	6 to Earl Beatty 2/6 Secord
Sir Adam Beck JS	41	15	51	23	28	3	JK-5	None
Topcliff PS	16	4	15	3	12	1	JK-5	None
Tredway Woodsworth PS	20	1	13	3	10	1	JK-8	None
Tumpane PS	35	5	25	7	18	1.5	JK-5	None
White Haven PS	17	0	14	4	10	1	JK-8	None
William G. Miller PS	34	8	26	5	21	2	JK-8	None
Williamson Rd Jr PS	60	17	54	49	5	3	JK-6	None
Winchester Jr & Sr PS	105	13	27	0	27	4	JK-8	13 to Brown 9/13 Jesse Ketchum 22 to Lord Lansdowne 9/15 Curch 5/6 Waterfront 1/1 Island 32 to Dundas 12/13 Neslon Mandela 13/19 Market Lane
Withrow Ave Jr PS	26	9	28	20	8	2	JK-6	None
Yorkview PS	37	8	31	11	20	2	JK-5	None
TOTAL 2024-2025 (JK only)	2,967	644	2,462	1,191	1,271	156**	N/A	158/282
TOTAL 2023-2024 (JK only)	3,048	713	2,565	1,234	1,331	102	N/A	59/112
TOTAL 2022-2023*** (JK/SK)	5,774	1,531	4,858	2,343	2,515	160	N/A	40/89
TOTAL 2021-2022 (SK only)	2,865	787	2,619	1,350	1,269	111	N/A	75/148

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

***Note:** Denotes a new Early French Immersion site for September 2024-2025 school year.

****Note:** Denotes projected number of combined entry classes for French Immersion (i.e., JK/SK).

*****Note:** Denotes a double cohort entry (i.e., JK/SK) for Early French Immersion for September 2022-2023 school year only.

Middle French Immersion

(Grade 4 Entry – September 2023)

School Name	Total # of Applicants	# Sibling Applicants	# Accepted Placements	# Accepted from English Catchment	# Accepted from Feeder Schools	Number of Projected Classes	School Configuration	Redirection
Bedford Park PS	43	4	29	10	19	1	JK-8	None
Blaydon PS	29	0	11	0	11	1	JK-5	None
Briarcrest JS	30	0	17	4	13	1	JK-5	None
Cassandra PS	30	0	27	14	13	1	JK-5	None
Cedarbrook PS	35	2	19	3	16	1	JK-8	None
Centennial Road Jr PS	19	0	16	12	4	1	JK-6	None
Charles H. Best JMS	22	0	15	0	15	1	4-8	None
Cherokee PS	17	0	11	3	8	1	JK-5	None
Chester ES	40	0	27	20	7	1	JK-5	None
Cliffside PS	24	2	18	2	16	1	JK-8	None
Cresthaven PS	21	0	14	2	12	1	JK-5	None
Denlow PS	22	0	18	5	13	1	JK-5	None
Diefenbaker ES	16	0	16	16	0	1	JK-5	None
Duke of Connaught Jr & Sr PS	21	0	12	4	8	1	JK-8	None

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

School Name	Total # of Applicants	# Sibling Applicants	# Accepted Placements	# Accepted from English Catchment	# Accepted from Feeder Schools	Number of Projected Classes	School Configuration	Redirection
Dundas Jr PS	26	0	20	3	17	1	JK-5	None
Emily Carr PS	31	0	19	6	13	1	JK-8	None
Fern Ave Jr & Sr PS	31	1	23	8	15	1	JK-8	None
Forest Hill Jr & Sr PS	42	1	32	9	23	1	JK-8	None
Greenholme JMS	36	0	15	1	14	1	JK-8	None
Grenoble PS	41	1	31	5	26	1	JK-6	None
Harwood PS	27	1	10	4	6	1	JK-8	None
Highland Creek PS	15	2	8	4	4	1	JK-8	None
Highland Heights Jr PS	19	0	9	1	8	1	JK-6	None
Hunter's Glen Jr PS	43	2	33	10	23	1	JK-6	None
John A. Leslie PS	19	1	11	6	5	1	JK-8	None
John Ross Robertson Jr PS	36	0	27	12	15	1	JK-6	None
Maple Leaf PS	21	1	16	1	15	1	JK-8	None
North Agincourt Jr PS	34	2	23	1	22	1	JK-6	None
Pleasant PS	42	1	24	8	16	1	JK-6	None
Poplar Road Jr PS	31	5	26	11	15	1	JK-6	None
Presteign Heights ES	16	1	12	2	10	1	JK-5	None

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

School Name	Total # of Applicants	# Sibling Applicants	# Accepted Placements	# Accepted from English Catchment	# Accepted from Feeder Schools	Number of Projected Classes	School Configuration	Redirection
Rawlinson CS	24	0	11	5	6	1	JK-8	None
Renee Gordon HW Academy	40	1	26	4	22	1	JK-5	None
Ryerson CS	33	1	11	0	11	1	JK-8	None
Second Street JMS	24	1	15	0	15	1	JK-8	None
Sir Samuel B. Steele Jr PS	9	0	3	2	1	1	JK-6	None
Stanley PS	22	0	10	4	6	1	JK-5	None
Swansea Jr & Sr PS	42	8	37	35	2	2	JK-8	None
Valleyfield JS	34	1	30	10	20	1	JK-6	None
Wilkinson Jr PS	26	2	18	13	5	1	JK-6	None
TOTAL 2024-2025	1,133	41	750	260	490	41	N/A	None
TOTAL 2023-2024	1,223	69	776	294	482	43	N/A	None
TOTAL 2022-2023	837	61	653	264	389	41	N/A	None
TOTAL 2021-2022	982	77	834	265	569	48	N/A	None

Total Enrolment in French Immersion & Extended French Programs (JK to Grade 12)

Year	Elementary French Immersion	Elementary Extended French	Secondary French Immersion	Secondary Extended French	Total
2000-1	11,242	1,667	1,645	856	15,410
2001-2	11,206	1,584	2,606	801	16,197

Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024

2002-3	10,921	1,412	2,576	760	15,669
2003-4	11,047	1,660	2,176	1,147	16,030
2004-5	11,171	1,746	2,335	1,245	16,497
2005-6	11,331	2,098	2,406	1,319	17,154
2006-7	11,483	2,670	2,427	1,314	17,894
2007-8	11,865	3,394	2,428	1,352	19,039
2008-9	12,307	3,706	2,430	1,293	19,736
2009-10	12,810	3,954	2,408	1,291	20,463
2010-11	13,415	4,180	2,482	1,371	21,448
2011-12	14,285	4,246	2,506	1,525	22,562
2012-13	14,956	4,381	2,628	1,803	23,768
2013-14	15,724	4,546	2,728	1,845	24,843
2014-15	16,556	4,830	2,776	1,994	26,156
2015-16	17,476	4,848	2,855	1,970	27,149
2016-17	18,067	5,224	2,852	1,870	28,013
2017-18	18,631	5,376	2,899	1,915	28,821
2018-19	18,961	5,606	3,061	1,861	29,489
2019-20	18,991	5,647	3,183	2,001	29,822
2020-21	18,485	5,570	3,365	2,084	29,504
2021-22	18,020	3,866	3,457	2,130	27,473

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

2022-23*	19,566	2,591	3,367	1,956	27,480
2023-24	19,472	1,498	3,362	1,758	26,090

*Note: Denotes the year of transition to JK entry point in Early French Immersion.

Total Enrolment in Core French (Grades 4 to12)

Enrolment as of October 2023

Grade Level	Total # of Students Core French
Grade 4	14,174
Grade 5	14,273
Grade 6	14,448
Grade 7	13,491
Grade 8	13,930
Grade 9	15,742
Grade10	3,421
Grade 11	1,886
Grade 12	1,284
TOTAL 2023-2024	92,649
TOTAL 2022-2023	92,316
TOTAL 2021-2022	90,554
TOTAL 2020-2021	91,390

System Total at Program Entry Points

Program	Accepted February 2024	No. of Classes	System Waitlists 2023-24	System Waitlists 2022-23
Early Immersion (JK Entry) i.e., JK/SK	2,462	156	0	0
Middle Immersion (Grade 4 Entry)	750	41	0	0

**Enrolment Data
Early/Middle French Immersion 2024-2025 and
Core French Programs 2023-2024**

TOTAL 2024-2025	3,212	197	0	0
TOTAL 2023-2024	3,341	145	0	0
TOTAL 2022-2023**	5,911	219	0	0
TOTAL 2021-2022*	3,889	182	0	0

***Note:** Totals include SK Early Immersion entry and Intensive Extended Grade 6 Program.

****Note:** Totals include the double cohort entry (i.e., JK/SK) for Early French Immersion for September 2022-2023 school year only.

Transportation

French Immersion & Extended (JK to 12)

Grade Level	Total # of Students Transported by Bus	Empty Seat Riders on School Bus	Grade Level	Total # of Students Provided TTC Tickets
JK	395	4	N/A	N/A
SK	362	9	Grade 6	0
Grade 1	393	6	Grade 7	9
Grade 2	390	2	Grade 8	63
Grade 3	378	5	Grade 9	7
Grade 4	531	4	Grade 10	12
Grade 5	515	8	Grade 11	19
Grade 6 (2+ trsf req.)	6	81	Grade 12	28
Grade 7	20	16		
Grade 8	69	5		
TOTAL 2023-2024	3,059	140	TOTAL 2023-2024	138
TOTAL 2022-2023	3,163	157	TOTAL 2022-2023	149
TOTAL 2021-2022	2,575	N/A	TOTAL 2021-2022	138
TOTAL 2020-2021	2,260	N/A	TOTAL 2020-2021	89