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October, 2017

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s):

As a parent/guardian of a child in a Dufferin-Peel Year 2 Kindergarten classroom, you may wish to consider the French Immersion program as a possibility for Grade 1 in September 2018. French Immersion is a program in which 90% of the Grade 1 instruction is delivered in French. Instruction in English is added in later years.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board presently offers the French Immersion program at St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Gregory, Divine Mercy, St Elizabeth Seton and St Pio of Pietrelcina in Mississauga, and St. Joachim, Our Lady of Providence and St Angela Merici in Brampton. Transportation is NOT provided for students. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to transport their children to and from the French Immersion centre.

This program offers an excellent opportunity for becoming functionally bilingual in later years and has been found to be very successful. Over 300,000 students are enrolled in Extended French or French Immersion annually across Canada.

Students in the Dufferin-Peel French Immersion program attain a high level of proficiency in French at no cost to the student's English proficiency or achievement in other academic subjects, such as science and mathematics. Students in the French Immersion program receive at least 4510 hours of instruction in French by the end of Grade 8 and can:

- communicate effectively in French, by selecting the correct words and nuances, and adapting language in order to be understood;
- understand radio, television, newspapers and books, with the occasional help of a dictionary;
- demonstrate knowledge of the culture, society, customs, economy, government and institutions of a French-speaking community;
- function well in a French-speaking community.

More detailed information will be available at parent/guardian meetings to be held at three French Immersion locations. **Parent(s)/guardian(s) may attend any one of the following sessions:**

French Immersion centres	Session location	Date and time
Divine Mercy St Elizabeth Seton St Margaret of Scotland	Divine Mercy	Monday, November 20, 2017 7:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Providence St Angela Merici St Joachim	St Angela Merici	Thursday, November 23, 2017 7:00 p.m.
St Gregory St Pio of Pietrelcina	St Gregory	Wednesday November 29, 2017 7:00 p.m.

Submitting an Application

The date to submit an application using the French Immersion on-line application website as well as the deadline for the submission of applications will be announced at the French Immersion Parent/Guardian information sessions. Please note: in the case of an application by same-age/same-grade siblings, the parent/guardian shall submit one application per sibling.

Random Selection Process

Should the number of applications exceed the number of spaces available a centralized, a computer-generated random selection process will be held following the application deadline.

Please review the Board website for up-to-date information. You may also contact your child's present school, the principal of the French Immersion School in your area, or the board's French as a Second Language Consultant, Micheline Goguen (905-890-0708 ext. 24307). It is recommended that parents/guardians attend the information meeting at the applicable French Immersion School for more details.

Regards,

Carmel Murphy
Superintendent of Program and Learning Services
Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

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