

Written Notice of Motion (Trustees Story and Aarts)

From: Denise Joseph-Dowers, Manager, Board Services, Governance and Board Services

In accordance with Board Bylaws 21.1 and 5.15.28, the following motion is submitted as notice at this time and for consideration at the next Regular Meeting on April 22, 2020.

21.1 A matter may be added to the regular meeting agenda by submitting in writing to the Director, at least seven days in advance of the meeting by:

(a) two or more members of the Board...

5.15.27 A motion to reconsider a previous decision of the Board requires two-thirds majority of all members to carry.

5.15.28 A decision of the Board made at a previous Board meeting cannot be reconsidered unless notice of the motion to reconsider the decision has been included in the agenda

Reconsideration of Previous Board Decision:

French-as-a-Second-Language Program Review: Phase-out of Extended French Programs

- A. That the following Board decision of June 19, 2019, concerning, in particular, the timelines for the streamlining of entry points for French-as-a-Second Language programs, be reconsidered:

That the following recommendations on the findings of the French-as-a-Second-Language program review, as presented in the report, be approved:

... (i) That Intensive French-as-a-Second-Language programs be restructured leading to a single intensive French Immersion program model with two entry points (Junior Kindergarten and Grade 4), and that all other entry points be eliminated in the report, be approved....

Current Program and Enrolment Numbers	Final Entry Class Begins	Final Cohort Graduates Elementary Panel
Intermediate Extended French (Grade 7 Entry) 1,232 students – total overall enrolment	September 2020	June 2022
Cosburn MS (Intensive Extended Grade 6 Entry) 138 students – total overall enrolment	September 2020	June 2023

- B. and if the above is approved (NOTE 15 votes are required as per Bylaw 5.15.27);

Whereas, the report to the Board of Trustees arising from the French Review and its associated recommendations, presented to the Committee of the Whole on June 12, 2019 and received by the Board on June 19, 2019, were extensive, require sweeping changes, and yet left virtually no time for the public to contemplate or comment; and

Whereas, the Board has traditionally afforded communities long off-ramps to adjust, plan, and make family decisions around program changes, boundary changes, and other significant decisions that may influence the choices made in relation to their children's educational futures; and

Whereas, staff's desired timeline for the phase-out of the Gr. 7 Entry Extended French and Gr. 6 Intensive Extended French at Cosburn Middle School was part of the report received by the Board but not explicit in the recommendations adopted by Board, and

Whereas, the timelines currently being implemented unfairly exclude students currently in Grades 4 and 5 in the served areas (as of the 2019-2020 academic year), by removing from them the option of accessing any intensive French program and in particular Intermediate (Gr. 7 entry) Extended French, which many expected would still be available for them; and

Whereas, the timelines currently being implemented unfairly exclude students currently in Grade 4 (as of the 2019-2020 academic year), by removing from them the option of accessing the Gr. 6 Intensive Extended French program at Cosburn MS, which many expected would still be available for them; and

Whereas, this cohort of students is too old to access the kindergarten or Grade 4 entry points; and

Whereas, there is still an opportunity to extend the phase-out of Gr. 7 Entry Extended French programs, as well as the Cosburn MS Intensive Extended Gr. 6 French program, so as to eliminate this Grade 4 and 5 "gap;" and

Whereas, based on the current schedule for the phase-out of Junior Extended French cohort that began in September 2019, Extended French programs will continue in secondary until the end of the 2027-28 school year, the same graduation year as the 2019-20 Grade 4s, meaning that overall Extended French programming will not continue past June 2028;

Therefore, be it resolved:

That students currently in Grades 4 and 5 in the served catchment areas as of the 2019-2020 academic year, be afforded the same opportunity to apply to an existing Gr. 6 or 7 entry Extended French program through to graduation, that their predecessors in this program have had, thereby ensuring all grades have the ability to apply to an optional intensive French program in the TDSB, and that all Extended French programming still come to an end in 2027-2028.

Regular Meeting, March 11, 2020