



Early French Immersion Parent Information Meeting

NOTE this meeting will be recorded



Ey' swayel

We acknowledge that our teaching & learning takes place on unceded shared traditional territories of Coast Salish Nations.

We recognize the Kwantlen, Katzie and Semiahmoo, among other First Nations, as stewards of this land since time immemorial.

Outline for the meeting

- Introductions
- Acknowledgement
- What is French Immersion?
- Program Expectations
- Why choose French Immersion?
- Difference between programs (Early & Late French Immersion; Core French & Intensive/Enhanced French)
- Accessibility for all learners
- How can parents help?
- Registration information
- Q & A

Introductions



Beverley Bunker (she/her/elle)

Helping Teacher, K-12
French Immersion & Intensive
French



Alicia Logie (she/her/elle)

Helping Teacher, K-12
French Immersion

What is French Immersion

Major goal
of French Immersion
programs:

the opportunity for non-Francophone students to become bilingual in English and French



Characteristics

- *A communicative approach to language acquisition*
- Additive bilingual program
- Fosters an appreciation and an acceptance of *cultural diversity*
- *Compatible to brain research: language learning is innate for children*
- Expected to take *several years* to achieve its objectives

Program Expectations

Students become functionally fluent in French and English

Students graduate with a bilingual Dogwood diploma upon completion



Ministry Graduation Expectations

- Grade 11 or 12 Ministry French literacy assessment
- DELF (optional) International accreditation of French language competency

Upon leaving the program...

participate easily in
conversations in English
and French

take post-secondary
courses with French as
the language of instruction

accept employment
with French as the language
of the workplace.

Why French?

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

Spoken as a major language worldwide in 54 countries

One of Canada's official languages

Travel in Canada and abroad

French Programs in Surrey (SD36)

Overview

PROGRAM	GRADE LEVELS	LEVEL OF FRENCH ATTAINED
CORE FRENCH	5-8 (Elementary) 9-12 (Secondary)	*Basic knowledge and competency in French (language studies only)
INTENSIVE FRENCH / ENHANCED FRENCH	6 to 12 (Secondary – called Enhanced French)	*Intermediate competency in French (language studies only) emphasis on oral language with some competencies in reading and writing
LATE FRENCH IMMERSION	6 to 12 (Secondary with Early Immersion students)	*Advanced level of competency (language studies and other subject areas taught in French)
EARLY FRENCH IMMERSION	K – 12 (Elementary)	*Oral and written fluency in a variety of contexts *Dual Dogwood Diploma upon graduation

Why choose French Immersion?

- Learning another language opens new life opportunities
- Cognitive advantages: improved problem-solving, tolerance for ambiguity, creativity, multiple perspectives, adaptability and ability to improvise
- Cultural enrichment
- Develop pride in a bilingual or multilingual identity
- Develop awareness and appreciation for diverse cultures

Why Choose French Immersion?

Surrey Schools
LEADERSHIP IN LEARNING

KINDERGARTEN LOTTERY
APPLICATION OPENS JANUARY 27 @ 9:00 AM (EARLY FRIM)

GRADE 6 LOTTERY
APPLICATION OPENS JANUARY 27 @ 9:00 AM (LATE FRIM)

PROGRAM INFORMATION MEETINGS

EARLY FRENCH IMMERSION
(K ENTRY)
MON JAN 13 @ 7:00 PM

LATE FRENCH IMMERSION
(GRADE 6 ENTRY)
THURS JAN 23 @ 7:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING LINKS
[HERE](#)

CAN ELL STUDENTS REGISTER?
YES! IN FACT, WE ENCOURAGE IT! RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS OFTEN DO EXTREMELY WELL IN FRENCH IMMERSION. THEY BRING THEIR LANGUAGE EXPERIENCES INTO THE PROGRAM AND ARE STILL ENTITLED TO ELL SUPPORT. FAMILIES FROM ALL CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC BACKGROUNDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONSIDER FRENCH IMMERSION.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

BECOME PART OF THE FRANCOPHONE WORLD AND OPEN THE DOOR TO A VARIETY OF CULTURAL EXPERIENCES TAUGHT IN AN AUTHENTIC WAY. STUDENTS WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE MUSIC, DANCE, ART, FOOD, AND LANGUAGE FROM ACROSS THE FRANCOPHONE WORLD THROUGHOUT THEIR K-12 EXPERIENCE. STUDENTS IN FRENCH IMMERSION ALSO DEVELOP THEIR INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING, HELPING THEM TO BECOME RESPECTFUL AND EMPATHETIC GLOBAL CITIZENS.

DEVELOP PRIDE IN A BILINGUAL OR MULTILINGUAL IDENTITY

STUDENTS IN FRENCH IMMERSION ARE ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN SENSE OF PERSONAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY AND TO EXPLORE HOW FRENCH FITS FOR THEM. BEING BILINGUAL OR MULTILINGUAL ENRICHENS OUR SENSE OF IDENTITY.

HOW CAN PARENTS SUPPORT LEARNING IN FRENCH IMMERSION?

ENCOURAGE A LOVE OF READING IN YOUR HOME LANGUAGE(S), LISTENING TO FRENCH MUSIC, OR ATTENDING FRENCH PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS AS A FAMILY. EMBRACE RISK TAKING! YOU DO NOT NEED TO SPEAK FRENCH TO NURTURE YOUR CHILD'S JOY AND CURIOSITY FOR LANGUAGES.

COGNITIVE ADVANTAGES

LANGUAGE LEARNING CAN IMPROVE COGNITIVE FLEXIBILITY, WHICH IS THE ABILITY TO SWITCH BETWEEN TASKS AND PERSPECTIVES. IT CAN ALSO IMPROVE PROBLEM-SOLVING ABILITIES.

EARLY FRENCH IMMERSION K-7 SCHOOLS: LAKESIDE, PEACE ARCH, PACIFIC HEIGHTS, WOODWARD HILL, MARTHA CURRIE, SIMON CUNNINGHAM, RIVERDALE
LATE FRENCH IMMERSION 6-7 SCHOOLS: CHELSEY PARK, 3551E LAK, PENNY BOSE, SUNRISE ROCK, NB WOODWARD



Authentic Cultural Experiences



by Alicia Logie Surrey School District

French Immersion Facts

Started in Canada in 1965; in
Surrey: 1977

Well-researched: Canada is
famous for its research on
Immersion

Over 450,000 students enrolled
in immersion programs across
Canada

Approximately 3400 students
currently in Surrey

What about English language skills? Research says...

- French Immersion students excel in their English language courses and Ministry evaluations
- Transfers from a child's first language support their learning of additional languages and in turn a first language may be enhanced by the acquisition of a new language
- Children are learning French after they have mastered the vocabulary and syntax of another language

What about English Language Learners? Research says...

Most children who begin Immersion in Kindergarten already speak at least one language very well

ELL support begins in Grade 3 when English Language Arts is introduced

What about
achievement in
other subject
areas?
Research says...

- French Immersion students' performance in other subjects equals that of other students at their grade level in the regular English program



What about children with special needs?

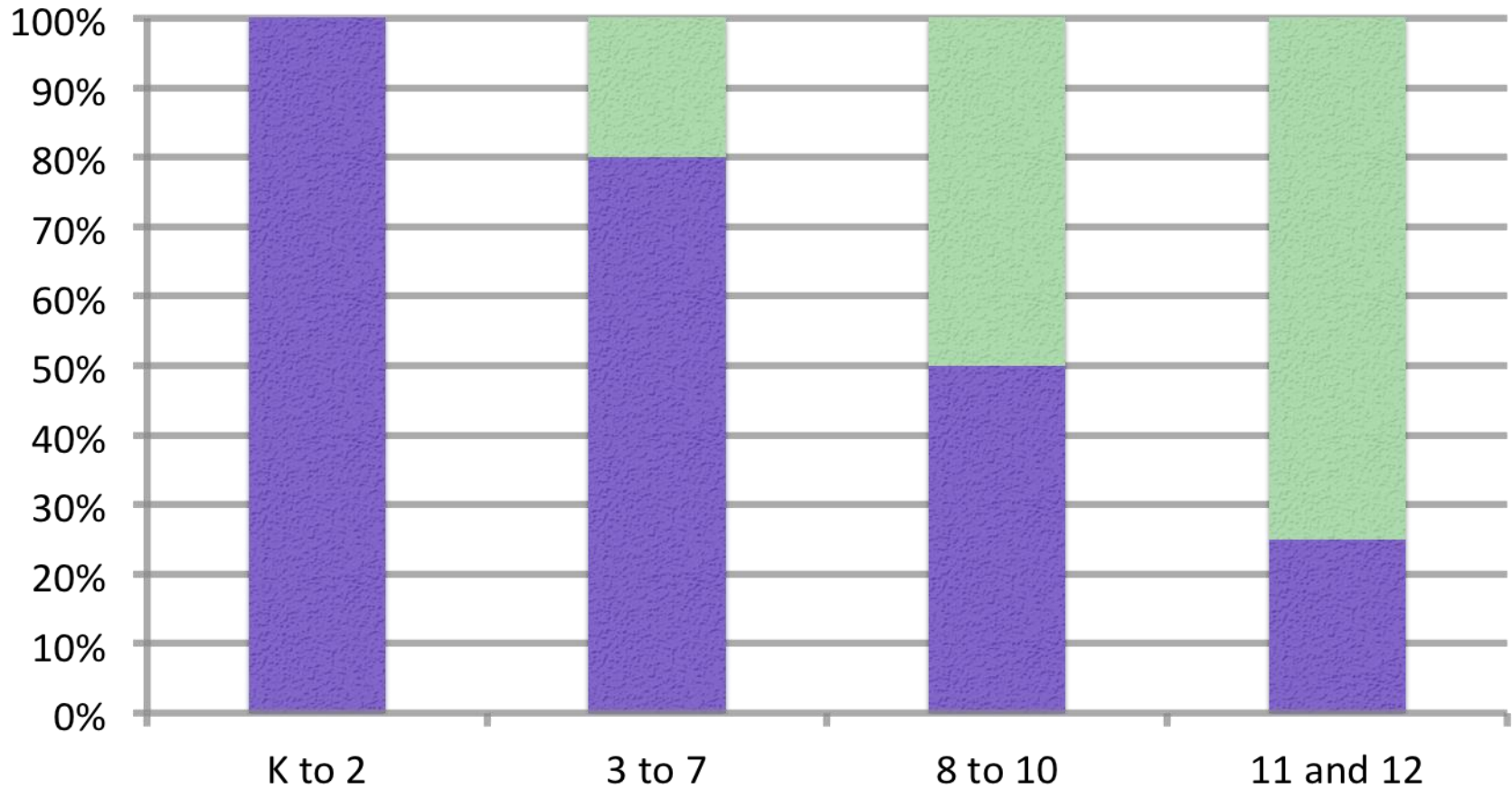
Research says...

- French Immersion is a program for all learners!
- Students with learning disabilities have the same access to curriculum and learning as they would in the regular English program
- those with learning challenges as well as gifted learners can be successful
- Learner Support Team services are available in all Early Immersion schools
- Neurodiverse children (e.g. ASD, ADHD) have been shown to gain benefits from French Immersion – exposure matters!

How does it work? Early Immersion

- Students learn French and other subjects using **French**
- Wide range of vocabulary, language learning situations and interaction with the language
- Students experience **two** literacy programs: English and French
- TIME in the language = fluency and confidence

Percentage of French instructional time



How can I help at home?

95% of French Immersion parents do not speak French. It is important therefore to:

- Establish good rapport with your child's teacher
- Read to your child in your home language(s)
- Support a positive learning environment at home
- Ask your child what they are enjoying about their French learning
- Encourage your child to sign out French library books, watch TV in French, and listen to French music



How can I help at school?

- Talk with the teacher about helping. Non-French speakers are welcome!
- Participate in field trips, reading, doing hands-on activities, helping in the library, joining the PAC
- Make an effort to use basic French greetings and questions as much as your ability allows



CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON

Furthering bilingualism by promoting and creating opportunities for students to learn and use French

Canadian Parents For French

- Non-profit organization support group for parents
- Fund and organize socio-cultural events, scholarships, summer camps and District & Provincial French Speaking Contest
- www.cpf.bc.ca



Early Immersion Elementary Schools

- Riverdale: 14835- 104 A Avenue
- Simon Cunningham: 9380- 140 Street
- Woodward Hill: 6082- 142 Street
- Martha Currie: 5811- 184 Street
- Peace Arch: 15877 Roper Street
- Laronde: 1880 Laronde Drive
- Pacific Heights 17148 26 Ave

Our Secondary schools

École Earl Marriott Secondary

15751 16 Ave

École Kwantlen Park Secondary

10441 132 St

École Panorama Ridge

13220 64 Ave

École Salish Secondary

7278 184 St



Kindergarten Lottery Registration Process 2025

January 13, 2025	Register at local catchment school
January 27, 2024 @ 9:00 am	Kindergarten Lottery application opens online
February 14, 2025 @ 4:00 pm	Kindergarten Lottery applications close online

Parents apply for the lottery by entering their details, their child's details (*one application per child*), and their preferred program/school choices (*up to a maximum of three - listed in order of preference*).

[Information and documents for registration](#) (CLICK)

Lottery information Early French Immersion

Once the online application period has closed, a **random lottery draw will take place.**

Applicants will be contacted starting February 21, 2025, indicating whether or not the lottery was successful for their child/children.

Successful applicants will be allocated a place in a Kindergarten Lottery Programs school, and their registration package will be forwarded to the school. All other applicants will be placed on a waitlist.

Program seats are filled until all available places have been allocated. Waitlisted applicants may remain on the waitlist until a place becomes available. If a student drops out of a program before or during the program, the next applicant on the waitlist will be contacted.

Make sure to check our [Application Checklist](#) and read our [frequently asked questions](#) for parents before applying.



ersion Early French Immersion (K-7)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

French Immersion is a research-based program that provides students with the opportunity to learn French from an early age. Starting in Kindergarten, or Grade 1 if space is available, Early French Immersion provides instruction entirely in French until Grade 3, after which 20% of instruction is in English and 80% in French up to Grade 7. This program aims to develop strong communication skills in both languages, as well as an understanding of language structure that may help students learn other languages more easily.

(K- French is one of Canada's two official languages, and its worldwide distribution makes it a valuable language to learn in today's global society. With more than 45 countries sharing the language, French is considered a "world" language. The acquisition of French can prove to be a valuable asset in the future, as it can lead to increased opportunities in both personal and professional settings.



FIN

Questions?