



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM FORMAT

“And He said to them, ‘Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there, and it shall move; and nothing shall be impossible to you.’” Matthew 17:20

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First Tabling

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Review

[Click here to enter a date.](#)

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RECOMMENDATION REPORT

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



Rory McGuckin
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Executive Superintendent
of Business Services and
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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report provides the Board of Trustees with information related to the implementation of a new format for the International Languages Program as approved by the Board at the July 12, 2018 Special Board meeting. Staff is requesting approval of the surveys that will be sent to parents during the first month of school in September 2018.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 24 hours

B. PURPOSE

1. At the July 12, 2018 Special Board meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the following motion:

That the Board of Trustees request the Minister of Education to approve the International Languages (IL) program to be piloted in the 2018-2019 school year in the existing 44 International Language schools such that it is instructed for 4 periods of 30 minutes each week within the 300-minute instructional day. The IL program will be evaluated within the school year, and other alternative methods of delivery will be sought for future school years;

That the Province be requested to amend the curriculum to allow International Language Enrichment to be taught by qualified CUPE language instructors during the 300-minute instructional school day;

Pending official approval from the Minister of Education, that the Director of Education be instructed to survey parents in school communities to confirm their desire to have IL taught for 30 minutes, 4 times a week, as approved by the Board, or an alternative IL delivery model. Staff are to report back on the results of the survey no later than October Board;

That the Director work with relevant union partners and stakeholders to identify available options which would keep International Language programming in IL schools and any other interested school communities for future years. Staff are to report back on the results of those discussions no later than the October Board meeting;

That there is an ability to survey parents in the IL schools beginning in September 2018;

That the IL Policy S.P.05 be waived to allow school communities to be surveyed to indicate their preferences and staff make appropriate changes;

and that a tape of tonight's proceedings be sent to the Minister of Education.

C. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. Upon approval of the Ministry, the school board will initiate a pilot program format for the International Languages (IL) program within the current 44 International Language schools. The new format will include the delivery of IL instruction for 4 periods of 30 minutes each week within the Ministry mandated 300-minute instructional day.
2. There are Ministry requirements that schools boards must follow in regards to certain curriculum subject areas. The Ministry has designated that all elementary schools must deliver 60 minutes of daily mathematics instruction, 20 minutes of Daily Physical Activity and deliver French language instruction as part of the elementary school curriculum. The TCDSB also has a comprehensive literacy program that requires 60 minutes of daily instruction in all elementary classrooms and a Religion/Family Life program that requires 30 minutes of daily instruction. The implementation of an IL program during the 300-minute instructional day will result in a loss of 120 minutes per week specifically dedicated to the Ministry curriculum.
3. Principals will work with classroom teachers to ensure that all other subjects will be rotated within the instructional week so that no one subject is consistently impacted by the delivery of the IL program. This will result in the loss of the 120 minutes of Ministry curriculum being distributed over multiple subject areas thereby not adversely affecting one specific curriculum subject area.
4. The Curriculum department has initiated a summer writing project to create curriculum resource supports that identify ways in which teachers can integrate teaching and learning through inquiry, project-based learning and design thinking. This blended learning framework will assist teachers in mapping out the Ministry Overall Expectations in the Ontario curriculum from all core subject areas. This will allow for an integrated teaching

approach thereby meeting a variety of curriculum overall expectations from numerous subject areas.

5. In order to fulfil the July 12, 2018 Board motion, two surveys have been developed to gather feedback from parents regarding the IL program. The first survey (Appendix A) will be sent to our 44 current IL schools to determine their desire to have IL taught for 30 minutes, 4 times a week, or another alternative delivery model. The second survey (Appendix B) will be sent to all other elementary schools to determine their desire to implement an IL program and, if so desired, the format they wish to implement. Results of the survey will be brought back to the October Board meeting.

D. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. For those schools that maintain the Board approved format of receiving IL instruction during the 300-minute school day, a survey will be conducted by the Research Department to determine the effectiveness and satisfaction of the program during the 2018-2019 school year. The surveys will be coded by the Research Department to ensure that only one survey per family is submitted and that the integrity of the survey is maintained. Those results will be brought back in a report for the June 2019 Board meeting.
2. Depending upon the discussions with the Ministry of Education regarding the pilot of the IL program for the 2018-2019 school year, Board staff may have to look at alternative methods of delivery for the IL program for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. The Research Department will also evaluate the pilot IL program through surveys with the appropriate stakeholders. Those results will be shared during the June 2019 Student Achievement meeting.

E. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

1. The survey for all 44 IL schools (Appendix A) will be administered by the Research Department during the first week of school in September. The surveys will be coded and numbered to ensure that only one survey per family is distributed and returned. The return date for this survey will be September 17, 2018. Surveys will be translated and available for schools that require the survey in another language.

2. The Research Department will process all of the survey submissions to determine the results for each of the 44 IL schools. Schools will have the choice to maintain the approved format of IL instruction 4 times a week for 30 minutes a day or selecting to have the IL program offered after school or on weekends.
3. The return rate for the surveys of the IL schools should be 67% in order for the results to be considered viable. This means that for all the surveys distributed in the school, one per family, 67% of the total must be returned in order for the final outcome to be considered. If 67% of the surveys distributed to families in the school community are not returned for tabulation, the pilot program, as approved by the Board in the July Special Board Meeting, will continue at those particular schools throughout the 2018-2019 school year.
4. In order to determine if the program is to be continued using the Board approved model or to move the IL program to an alternative model, the majority of 51% should be attained for the preferred selection.
5. For those schools that have determined to move the IL program from the 300-minute regular school day to an alternative format, Board staff will have to engage CUPE 3155 union partners in discussions as to how this will affect their complement of workers. Board staff will have to ensure that the protected complement of CUPE 3155 is not reduced due to this particular school community decision and that the affected IL instructors are able to find appropriate full time employment for the remaining 2018-2019 school year (as per terms outlined in their Collective Agreement).
6. Implementation for an after school or weekend program could occur during this current school year depending upon the number of registrations for the program. The IL Department will ensure that a program can be delivered after school or on weekends, in the preferred language, if there are sufficient registrations from the school community.
7. The second survey for all other TCDSB elementary schools (Appendix B) will be distributed the week of September 17th and be returned to the Research Department for tabulation by October 1, 2018. This survey will determine if schools wish to have an IL program during the school day or if the desire is to have another alternative delivery format for the IL program. The survey will also determine, if there is interest in an IL program, the language of choice for that particular program. This survey will also be translated and available in additional languages.
8. The implementation for any new school for an IL program to be offered during the day would be contingent on discussions with our union partners and the

Ministry of Education. Upon approval for this type of program, implementation would occur in September 2019.

F. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. Staff recommends that the current 44 IL schools receive the survey (Appendix A) during the first week of school in September and that the deadline for return be September 17, 2018.
2. Staff recommends that all other TCDSB elementary schools receive the survey (Appendix B) the week of September 17, 2018 and that the deadline for return be October 1, 2018.