

Good Evening,

My name is Jessica Pacheco, I am advocating for the Portuguese Community and the students and acting in behalf of myself. I believe in the international languages program at TCDSB has many different benefits and provides opportunities to students. I believe it is very important to have this program part of the regular school day because many parents and families do not have an opportunity to take students after school to learn a second or third language due to time or finances. Families now are faced with many different challenges like single families, blended families and time becomes very limited to take students to after school programs. Multilingualism has shown to have many different social, psychological and lifestyle advantages. I believe all students will benefit from learning an additional international language from the international languages program. I have read the results of the survey which were positive. Moving forward what will TCDSB do with the results. Will more schools be added to the program ? Will some schools loose the program? What will the program look like as part of the school day? Is there a way that the families of students and communities can get involved or help to advocate for the international languages program so that it will continue passed this school year ending June 2019.

Thank you for this opportunity to be part of this meeting.