

DELEGATION

Lina Maria Camargo Orozco

The reason I am joining as delegate for this board meeting is to understand and advocate for the quality of teaching for the French Immersion program. Since my son entered the school at Holy Name in JK, they had moved perfectly capable French teachers and Early Child Educators from his class to replace them with non-speaking teachers and ECE that have more seniority. Good English teachers with really good intentions to teach French but who are not qualified to do so, which defeats the whole purpose of French immersion when the classes are not done in the French Language as it should be for the kids to become bilingual.

We, as parents, do not understand the politics of the board and the union, in which seniority is a higher ranking to teach a French immersion class than the requirement of French, which for us does not make any sense, as the kids' education should be the main objective of this decision.

Situations like this, is deterring parents instead of attracting them, to opt for French Immersion as the stream of education for their children. Additionally, it is also putting in the minds of those, like us, who have theirs already enrolled, to look for an alternative that provides a consistent and higher quality education for their Children.

Therefore, future decisions on moving teachers around as a consequence of on-line learning, retirement, covid among other reasons; should have as an essential element for the French Immersion Program the French qualification of teachers and not only their seniority. Education should be always put as a first priority on the agenda of the board and not the negotiation table of the union.