



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

## STATUS OF WAITLIST FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, ALL WARDS

*You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.  
James 5:8 | NIV |*

| Created, Draft  | First Tabling | Review                                      |
|---|---------------|---|
| June 5, 2017  | June 15, 2017 | <a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a> |
| J. Volek, Senior Coordinator, Planning and Accountability<br>J. Brighton, Senior Coordinator, ICT Trillium/Student Services<br>K. Malcolm, Superintendent of Student Achievement and Well-Being, Area 7<br>M. Silva, Comptroller of Planning and Development Services |               |   |
| <b>INFORMATION REPORT</b>   |               |   |

**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.*



- R. McGuckin  
Associate Director of Academic Affairs
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Director of Education

## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Planning, Admissions and IT staff have assembled and summarized current student waitlist information, with a particular focus on identifying oversubscribed elementary schools with larger numbers of waitlisted students.

As of May 29, 2017, 5638 new and 5675 returning FDK students, for a total of 11,313 FDK students, have been registered across the system. The projected FDK enrolment for the 2017-18 school year, as reported at the March 2, 2017 meeting of the Student Achievement and Well Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee in the report “*2017-2018 to 2019-2020 Consensus Enrolment Projections*”, is 11,807 FDK students. This represents 494 FDK students required to meet projected enrolment numbers.

An analysis of current FDK student waitlist information indicates that many students who were not accommodated in their first school of choice, but offered redirection to a nearby school with available space, opted to remain on a waitlist. A total of 791 FDK students remain on FDK waitlists Priority #1 through #7; 513 Regular program students and 278 French Immersion (FI) program students. Of these, approximately 33% represent Priorities #1 and #2 who will/have been offered redirection options.

Approximately 40% of the FDK waitlist represent Priority #3 applicants. This category is made up of students who require admission based on their registered child care address for Regular program as well as FI applicants who reside in the larger FI boundary. The FI applicants in this category often have placement in home schools in the regular program but have opted to remain on the FI waitlists.

At the beginning of the registration process 56 schools were identified as oversubscribed and monitored accordingly. Current FDK to Grade 8 registration at these schools indicates that 467 Regular program and 248 FI program students remain on waitlists for a total of 715 students. Of these, approximately 32% represent Priorities #1 and #2 who will/have been offered redirection options.

## **B. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with an update on the number of students currently on FDK waitlists in all TCDSB elementary schools as well as the overall waitlist for FDK to Grade 8 at 56 identified oversubscribed schools for the 2017-18 academic year

## C. BACKGROUND

1. **September 8, 2016** – At the Student Achievement and Well Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee, a Trustee motion directed staff to report on the waitlists for all elementary schools that are oversubscribed. This report is part of an on-going mandate to regularly update the Board of Trustees on the status of waitlists.
2. As of May 29, 2017, projected FDK enrolment of 11,807 students for the 2017-18 school year exceeds the number of currently placed and returning students by 494. A total of 791 FDK students remain on FDK waitlists Priority #1 through #7; 513 Regular program students and 278 French Immersion (FI) program students. This indicates that FDK enrolment projections could be met and/or exceeded prior to the start of the 2017-18 school year.
3. Students who have applied to their home school and are unsuccessful in gaining admission due to capacity limitations are offered redirection to the closest school with available FDK capacity. Waitlists are managed at the school level with support from the Registration Team which consists of representatives from the Admissions, Early Years, HR and IT departments.
4. There are no guarantees of admission at any level of priority, however, every effort is made to ensure that space at any school is fully utilized. Portable classrooms are assessed on an annual basis in conjunction with the approval of enrolment projections and staffing models for each school year. Planning and Facilities staff will also assess schools with pupil accommodation challenges and make any suggestions for internal modifications in an effort to increase overall capacity to accommodate students where necessary. The overriding objective is to accommodate as many students as possible.
5. Opportunities for elementary boundary adjustments will continue to be considered in an effort to keep pace with demographic change in accordance with the *Elementary School Attendance Boundary Review Policy S.A.03*. Boundary adjustments will not have a sizeable or significant impact on enrolment for several years as students who gain access through an out-of-boundary request and their siblings are allowed to graduate out of the school. Boundaries ensure that the TCDSB is first serving students in their community school.

## D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

6. As of May 29, 2017, a total of 791 FDK students remain on FDK waitlists Priority #1 through #7; 513 Regular program students and 278 French Immersion (FI) program students.
7. Of the 791 total FDK waitlisted students the following is true:
  - 37 represent Priority 1 (siblings)
  - 221 represent Priority 2 (in-boundary), and
  - 320 represent Priority 3 (in regional FI program boundary/registered child care in boundary – regular program)
 This equates to 578 students or 73% of waitlisted FDK students.
8. An analysis of the FDK to Grade 8 waitlists at 56 identified oversubscribed schools provides the following information:
  - Table 1 Regular program waitlist by priority
  - Table 2 Regular program waitlist-schools with waitlists of 6 or more
  - Table 3 French Immersion (FI) program waitlist by priority
  - Table 4 FI waitlist – schools with waitlists of 18 or more

### Regular Program

| <b><u>Table 1</u></b><br><b><u>Regular Program</u></b> | <b>Number of New Students Registered and Attending</b> |            | <b>Current Total Number of Students on a Waitlist</b> |            | <b>Current Number of Students on a Waitlist – Placement in Another TCDSB School</b> |            | <b>Current Number of Students on a Waitlist No Placement in a TCDSB School</b> |            |
|--|--|------------|---|------------|---|------------|--|------------|
|  | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>   | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>  | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>  | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>   | <b>FDK</b> |
| <b>1</b> (siblings)                                    | 0  | 10         | 1   | 1          |   |            | 1  | 1          |
| <b>2</b> (in-boundary)                                 | 50   | 804        | 137   | 86         | 7   | 17         | 130  | 69         |
| <b>3</b> (out-of-boundary, licenced child care)        | 421  | 1075       | 15  | 48         | 4   | 18         | 11   | 30         |
| <b>4</b> (out-of-boundary, unlicensed child care)      | 10   | 24         | 10  | 9          | 2   | 7          | 8  | 2          |
| <b>5</b> (out-of-boundary)                             | 3  | 8          | 85  | 70         | 17  | 31         | 68   | 39         |

|  |              |    |            |   |            |  |            |   |
|--|--------------|----|------------|---|------------|--|------------|---|
| <b>6</b> (outside the City of Toronto) | 53           | 41 | 3          | 2 |            |  | 3          | 2 |
| <b>Total (1-8)</b>                     | <b>536</b>   |    | <b>251</b> |   | <b>30</b>  |  | <b>221</b> |   |
| <b>Total (FDK)</b>                     | <b>1,963</b> |    | <b>216</b> |   | <b>73</b>  |  | <b>143</b> |   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                           | <b>2499</b>  |    | <b>467</b> |   | <b>103</b> |  | <b>364</b> |   |

| <b>Table 2</b><br><b>Regular Program</b><br><br><b>Oversubscribed</b><br><b>School Name</b> | <b>Number of New Students Registered and Attending</b> |            | <b>Current Total Number of Students on a Waitlist</b> |            | <b>Current Number of Students on a Waitlist – Placement in Another TCDSB School</b> |            | <b>Current Number of Students on a Waitlist No Placement in a TCDSB School</b> |            |
|---|--|------------|---|------------|---|------------|--|------------|
|   | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>   | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>  | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>  | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>   | <b>FDK</b> |
| All Saints  | 30   | 78         | 6   | 4          | 2   | 1          | 4  | 3          |
| Holy Angels   | 25   | 71         | 5   | 6          |   |            | 5  | 6          |
| Holy Rosary   | 6  | 11         | 2   | 4          |   |            | 2  | 4          |
| James Culnan  |  | 26         | 4   | 3          | 1   | 2          | 3  | 1          |
| Josyf Cardinal Slipyj   |  | 4          | 2   | 5          |   | 2          | 2  | 3          |
| Our Lady of Lourdes   | 13   | 67         | 6   | 10         |   | 4          | 6  | 6          |
| Our Lady of Perpetual Help  | 12   | 44         | 19  | 11         | 2   | 3          | 17   | 8          |
| Our Lady of Sorrows   | 39   | 64         | 20  | 26         | 6   | 18         | 14   | 8          |
| St. Anselm  | 10   | 25         | 2   | 6          | 1   | 0          | 1  | 6          |
| St. Benedict  | 22   | 56         | 4   | 13         |   | 3          | 4  | 10         |
| St. Boniface  | 16   | 32         | 1   | 5          |   | 2          | 1  | 3          |
| St. Brendan   | 12   | 46         | 5   | 6          |   | 2          | 5  | 4          |
| St. Cecilia   | 10   | 22         | 10  | 4          | 3   | 2          | 7  | 2          |
| St. Clement   | 15   | 47         | 2   | 5          |   | 2          | 2  | 3          |
| St. Denis   | 10   | 31         | 13  | 8          |   | 1          | 13   | 7          |
| St. Edward  | 10   | 54         | 26  | 16         | 3   | 5          | 23   | 11         |
| St. Gregory   | 8  | 67         | 17  | 17         | 5   | 2          | 12   | 15         |
| St. John the Evangelist   | 10   | 45         | 10  | 7          |   | 6          | 10   | 1          |
| St. Lawrence  | 8  | 35         | 8   | 2          |   |            | 8  | 2          |

|                    |             |    |            |   |           |   |            |   |
|--------------------|-------------|----|------------|---|-----------|---|------------|---|
| St. Marcellus      | 6           | 49 | 9          | 2 |           |   | 9          | 2 |
| St. Maria Goretti  | 25          | 80 | 5          | 4 | 1         | 1 | 4          | 3 |
| St. Paschal Baylon | 32          | 73 | 10         | 4 | 1         | 1 | 9          | 3 |
| St. Pius X         | 12          | 47 | 11         | 5 |           | 1 | 11         | 4 |
| Transfiguration    | 7           | 31 | 8          | 6 | 1         | 5 | 7          | 1 |
| <b>Total (1-8)</b> | <b>328</b>  |    | <b>205</b> |   | <b>26</b> |   | <b>179</b> |   |
| <b>Total (FDK)</b> | <b>1105</b> |    | <b>179</b> |   | <b>63</b> |   | <b>116</b> |   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>1433</b> |    | <b>384</b> |   | <b>89</b> |   | <b>295</b> |   |

### **French Immersion (FI) Program**

| <b><u>Table 3</u></b><br><br><b>Admissions Priority (description)</b> | <b>Number of New FI Students Registered and Attending</b> |            | <b>Current Total Number of FI Students on a Waitlist</b> |            | <b>Current Number of Students on a Waitlist – Placement in Another TCDSB School</b> |            | <b>Current Number of Students on a Waitlist No Placement in a TCDSB School</b> |            |
|---|---|------------|--|------------|---|------------|--|------------|
|   | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>  | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>   | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>  | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>   | <b>FDK</b> |
| <b>1</b> (siblings)   | 2   | 97         | 1  |            |   |            | 1  |            |
| <b>2</b> (in regular program boundary)                                | 5   | 79         | 3  | 3          | 1   | 1          | 2  | 2          |
| <b>3</b> (in regional FI program boundary)                            | 10  | 43         | 52   | 166        | 13  | 77         | 39   | 89         |
| <b>4</b> (out-of-boundary, licenced child care)                       |   |            |  | 4          |   | 2          |  | 2          |
| <b>5</b> (out-of-boundary, unlicensed child care)                     |   |            | 2  |            |   |            | 2  |            |
| <b>6</b> (out-of-boundary)  | 3   |            | 3  | 13         |   | 5          | 3  | 8          |
| <b>7</b> (outside the City of Toronto)                                |   |            | 1  |            |   |            | 1  |            |
| <b>Total (1-8)</b>  | <b>20</b>   |            | <b>62</b>  |            | <b>14</b>   |            | <b>38</b>  |            |
| <b>Total (FDK)</b>  | <b>219</b>  |            | <b>186</b>   |            | <b>85</b>   |            | <b>101</b>   |            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>239</b>  |            | <b>248</b>   |            | <b>99</b>   |            | <b>149</b>   |            |

The following five (5) **oversubscribed** elementary schools have a French Immersion program student waitlist of 18 or more students, with nearly all of these students falling within their respective regional FI program boundaries (Priority 3).

| <b>Table 4</b><br><br><b>Oversubscribed School Name</b> | <b>Number of New FI Students Registered and Attending</b> |            | <b>Current Total Number of FI Students on a Waitlist</b> |            | <b>Current Number of Students on a Waitlist – Placement in Another TCDSB School</b> |            | <b>Current Number of Students on a Waitlist No Placement in a TCDSB School</b> |            |
|---|---|------------|--|------------|---|------------|--|------------|
|   | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>  | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>   | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>  | <b>FDK</b> | <b>Gr. 1-8</b>   | <b>FDK</b> |
| Holy Rosary   | 4   | 20         | 1  | 35         |   | 20         | 1  | 15         |
| Our Lady of Peace                                       | 7   | 36         | 25   | 56         | 7   | 33         | 18   | 23         |
| St. Benedict  |   | 29         |  | 25         |   |            |  | 25         |
| St. Cecilia   | 8   | 47         | 14   | 19         | 3   | 1          | 11   | 18         |
| St. Cyril   | 1   | 41         | 16   | 42         | 2   | 24         | 14   | 18         |
| <b>Total(1-8)</b>                                       | <b>20</b>   |            | <b>56</b>  |            | <b>12</b>   |            | <b>44</b>  |            |
| <b>Total(FDK)</b>                                       |   | <b>173</b> |  | <b>177</b> |   | <b>78</b>  |  | <b>99</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>193</b>  |            | <b>233</b>   |            | <b>90</b>   |            | <b>143</b>   |            |

9. As part of due diligence, Admissions staff regularly follow-up with schools in an effort to assist in managing their waitlists. It is noted that some parents are not interested in redirection and have elected to remain on the waitlist, in private schools or in their local Catholic and public school until the next TCDSB registration period.

## **E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

10. **February 23, 2017** – At the Regular Board meeting, the Board approved the Long-Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP). The LTAP calls for significant Capital investments over 15 years (subject to Ministry funding) to increase OTG capacity in areas where there is oversubscription—this includes “right-sized” replacement schools, additions, and retrofits.

11. Careful analysis of historical enrolment trends helped to inform future program direction in the Long-Term Program Plan (LTPP). In addition to the five (5) new elementary French Immersion (FI) programs and one (1) new secondary FI program successfully implemented this year, another five (5) new elementary FI programs and one (1) new secondary FI program are planned to be implemented in the fall of 2018—this is anticipated to have a net effect of reducing FI enrolment pressures across the system over time.
12. The Board will also continue to seek solutions to increase capacity in schools that are oversubscribed through its ongoing efforts to secure new Ministry funding for Capital construction and/or balancing enrolment and maximizing available classroom space.
13. Admissions and IT staff, in consultation with Education Council and Early Learning, developed a voluntary waitlist survey that is automatically e-mailed to all families on waitlists via the SOAR application. Staff will report to Board on the results of the survey in a future report.
14. In addition to the Waitlist survey, Entry and Exit surveys were implemented on January 18, 2017. Survey results are currently being analysed by staff and a report to Board is anticipated in the fall.

This report will be updated by the Admissions Department in the fall in consultation with IT, Early Learning and Education Council in order to track success in the accommodation of all students

## **F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

This report is for the consideration of the Board.