

Ministry of Education

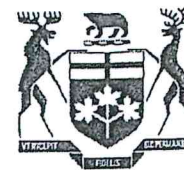
Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

Ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



Ontario



July 25, 2017

Ms. Angela Gauthier
Director of Education
Toronto Catholic District School Board
80 Sheppard Avenue East
Toronto Ontario M2N 6E8

Dear Ms. Gauthier,

Thank you for your letter about your proposed pilot project at St. René Goupil Catholic Elementary School in Scarborough. I am pleased to respond.

The Ontario government is committed to supporting official language bilingualism in Ontario. Under paragraph 8(1) 25 of the *Education Act*, the only authorized language of instruction other than English is French. At this time the Ministry of Education has no plans to change the Education Act or regulations prescribing the language in which any subject or subjects shall be taught in any year of the primary, junior, intermediate, or senior division.

Ontario publicly-funded schools may offer optional language courses for credit. In addition, school boards may offer language instruction outside of the school day according to the Guidelines for International Languages Elementary Program.

At the elementary level, in accordance with ministry policy, a school board is required to offer instruction in an international language when a written request is received from the parents of twenty-three or more children enrolled in elementary schools in that board's jurisdiction. The school board is responsible for all program aspects at the elementary school level.

More information about the International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program can also be found on the Ministry of Education's website at

www.edugains.ca/resources/ILE/ResourceGuide/MergedResourceGuide.pdf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MH'.

Mitzie Hunter, MBA
Minister