



## REPORT TO

# CORPORATE SERVICES, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

## IMPLEMENTATION OF FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAMMING AT ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

*According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master building I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it.*

*1 Corinthians 3:10 (NRSVCE)*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
February 6, 2018	February 8, 2018	

J. Howley, Sr. Manager of Accountability and Reporting

J. Volek, Acting Comptroller of Planning and Development Services

### RECOMMENDATION REPORT

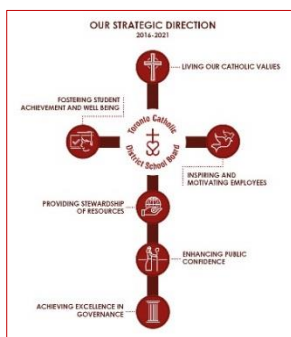
#### Vision:

*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.*



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Executive Superintendent  
of Business Services and  
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## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As part of the draft Long-Term Program Plan (LTPP), a consultation was administered to several elementary and secondary schools, including St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School. Feedback from the Catholic School Parent Council at St. Patrick indicated no immediate need for a French Immersion Program.

At a meeting on February 1, 2018, the Board of Trustees put forth an inquiry with a request to come back with a report from staff to update the Board on information with respect to the status of the Conseil Scolaire Viamonde's (French Public School Board's) plans to open a French language school in the same neighbourhood, as well as address a number of concerns raised by the community related to implementation of French Immersion.

Staff findings indicate that there are no elementary feeder schools currently offering full French Immersion within a 10 km radius, which would significantly impact the growth and sustainability of a French Immersion program at St. Patrick.

Additionally, Conseil Scolaire Viamonde has expressed interest in building a new high school at the former Greenwood PS site. Staff recommend that a French Immersion specialty program at St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School not be implemented at this time.

*The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 5 hours.*

## **B. BACKGROUND**

1. On October 20th 2016, The draft Long-Term Program Plan (LTPP) was approved in principle by the Board of Trustees, subject to consultation and gathering feedback. The consultation survey period was initiated on November 16, 2016 and concluded on January 13, 2017.
2. On December 7th 2017, at the Student Achievement and Well-Being Committee, *French Immersion Consultation Results* was received, one of the secondary schools considered for French Immersion was St. Patrick.
3. During the consultation process, St. Patrick Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) was contacted in the spring of 2017. The parent council and staff from the school indicated that they were already working on implementing a number of programs. Concern was raised regarding the impact on the implementation of French Immersion on existing programs.

4. The staff recommendations in the December 7, 2017 report included that a French Immersion program not be offered at St. Patrick. The Board of Trustees amended the staff recommendation, and the following motion was approved...

*“that St. Patrick be deleted from staff recommendation 2. “French Immersion programs not be offered at St. Jane Frances, St. Vincent de Paul and St. Patrick”...*

5. On February 1st 2018, Student Achievement and Well-Being, the Board put forth inquiry with a request to come back with a report from staff addressing concerns raised by the St. Patrick community related to implementation of French Immersion, as well as, an update on the status of Conseil Scolaire Viamonde’s plans to open a French language school in the same neighbourhood. The report was requested by the Board of Trustees for Corporate Services Committee on February 8, 2018 (Appendix ‘A’).

## **C. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

1. In order for the French Immersion program to grow and be sustainable at St. Patrick, support from the nearby feeder schools is required. Staff reviewed all TCDSB French Immersion schools within a 10 km radius of St. Patrick. The analysis confirmed that there are no elementary feeder schools currently offering full French Immersion in the area. See Appendix ‘B’ for more detail.
2. Furthermore, the Ministry of Education recently announced that Conseil Scolaire Viamonde (French Public school board) will receive \$16 million in Capital Priorities funding to open a new, 500-pupil place secondary school in the Beaches-East York/Toronto-Danforth area.
3. The Conseil Scolaire Viamonde’s secondary school has expressed interest in acquiring a former Greenwood TDSB site declared surplus to their needs in June 2017, located within a 5-minute walk of St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School (Appendix ‘C’).

## **D. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That a French Immersion specialty program at St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School not be implemented at this time.