

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें	중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다
Información importante - Por favor traducir	معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة
重要な情報-翻訳してください	اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

September 22, 2020

Dear Gordon families,

We would like to advise you of a change coming to the District’s [Late French Immersion program](#). The Late French Immersion program is intended for non-French speaking students who wish to develop a high level of proficiency in French. Students are eligible to enter the program in Grade 6, and when they complete Grade 7, they have the option of continuing in French Immersion at secondary school. Late French Immersion is a District program, meaning it is located at a particular school site but enrolls students equitably via an application basis, not on a catchment basis. The program currently includes two school sites, operating out of Secord Elementary and Gordon Elementary schools.

With the objective to maintain program enrolment and increase equity of access to the program, the District is initiating a phased relocation of the program from Gordon Elementary. The phased relocation involves moving the current program site from Gordon Elementary to Trafalgar Elementary, in addition to adding a program site at Douglas Elementary, for the 2021/22 school year. The program at Secord Elementary will not be affected by this process.

The program relocation is due to catchment enrolment pressure at Gordon Elementary. Gordon Elementary is unable to enrol all its catchment students in kindergarten and further enrolment growth is forecast for the Gordon catchment.

Current Gordon Elementary students will continue their Late French Immersion program until they complete Grade 7 (June 2022). This will provide stability for the students and their families. No further Grade 6 students will be enrolled at Gordon Elementary. Rather, newly registering Grade 6 students for 2021/22 will enrol into Trafalgar, Douglas or Secord Elementary schools.

Why not take Late French Immersion students over Gordon Elementary catchment students?

When enrolment pressure results in catchment students being displaced, the District is required to assess school capacity and prioritize catchment students over children who live outside of the catchment, and those enrolled in District programs. Although many students who reside in the Gordon

catchment choose to apply for Late French Immersion, it is still a District program and District programs are located where capacity allows.

Why Trafalgar and Douglas Elementary schools?

Trafalgar and Douglas Elementary both have sufficient space to accommodate a cohort of Late French Immersion students. A phased relocation of the program to these two sites will both maintain current enrolment in the program and increase access to the program by moving to three sites across the District.

The District appreciates that many Gordon families will be disappointed with the Late French Immersion program being moved given it has been located at Gordon Elementary for many years and that many current Gordon catchment families would be considering Late French Immersion because of the program’s location in their catchment school. To this end, the District strove to find an alternate location that continued to provide local access, in addition to increasing the geographical reach of the program by establishing a site in the south east vicinity of the District.

What does this mean for current Late French Immersion students at Gordon Elementary?

Current Late French Immersion students at Gordon Elementary will not be affected by the program’s relocation. Those students will continue their program at Gordon until they complete Grade 7 (June 2022). However, Gordon Elementary will stop intake of Grade 6 students in the program beginning next school year, September 2021, while Trafalgar and Douglas Elementary schools will begin enrolling Grade 6 students for next school year, September 2021.

	Gordon	Trafalgar/ Douglas
School year: 2020-2021	Grade 6, 7	Planning for 2021-2022
School year: 2021-2022	Grade 7	Grades 6
School year: 2022-2023	Phased out	Grades 6, 7

Information session

The District is committed to providing clear, timely and transparent information about the program relocation process. You are invited to attend a virtual information session.

October 7, 2020 at 5pm	Via a Microsoft TEAMS meeting Details on how to join at: GoVSB.ca/Late-French
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Survey

If you are unable to attend the virtual information session, please take the opportunity to share your comments and questions with the District in a short online survey at GoVSB.ca/Late-French.

The survey will be open **October 7 - 21**.

Application Timeline for Late French Immersion

Applications for all grades 1 - 6 District programs are accepted November 1 - January 31. Please visit the District website for information about [District programs](#). Details about [information sessions](#) on each of the programs are also available on the website.

Sincerely,

Chris Stanger, Director of Instruction

Cc: Jody Langlois, Associate Superintendent