

1.0 Rationale

- 1.1 The Near North District School Board is committed to providing Early Immersion programs through to Grade 12a in a fiscally responsible manner. These programs will be provided in an equitable way according to individual community needs and based on the criteria identified in 2.2.

2.0 Criteria To Initiate or Phase Out Programs:

- 2.1 All decisions made with regard to French Immersion program initiation, augmentation, phase out, or relocation shall be made in consultation with the Director,

3.0 Program models:

- 3.1** The Near North District School Board continues to offer Early French Immersion programs using the current models of dual track and Immersion centers.
- 3.2** Early French Immersion programs in the Near North District School Board will begin in Junior Kindergarten.
- 3.3** Early French Immersion programs at the elementary level shall include a minimum number of hours as identified in the Ministry of Education grant guidelines for French language.

In a French Immersion program, French must be the language of instruction for a minimum of 50% of the total instructional time at every grade level of the program. Immersion programs must provide a minimum of 3800 hours of instruction in French by the end of Grade 8. (2013) The Ontario Curriculum, French as a Second Language revised, p.16.

At the Secondary level, program hours for French Immersion

At the Grade 3 and 4 levels, 75 minutes a day will be devoted to English instruction of which 45 minutes will be devoted to English Language Arts and the remainder of the day will be devoted to other subjects. At the Grade 5 and 6 levels, 75 minutes a day will be devoted to English instruction of which 45 minutes will be devoted to English Language Arts and the remainder of the day will be devoted to other subjects. At the Grade 7 and 8 levels, 75 minutes a day will be devoted to English instruction of which 45 minutes will be devoted to English Language Arts and the remainder of the day will be devoted to other subjects. At the Grade 9 and 10 levels, 75 minutes a day will be devoted to English instruction of which 45 minutes will be devoted to English Language Arts and the remainder of the day will be devoted to other subjects. At the Grade 11 and 12 levels, 75 minutes a day will be devoted to English instruction of which 45 minutes will be devoted to English Language Arts and the remainder of the day will be devoted to other subjects.

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