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Subject: **French Immersion Program Update**

Background

On November 28, 2017, the Board of Trustees received a report that highlighted French Immersion was a growing program. This report seven years later provides an update.

French Immersion has continued to grow in popularity. In 2017 the Board stated our hope was availability of French Immersion programming to all interested Catholic families and stressed the importance of adhering to the KinderSTART registration timelines. The Board confirmed that any registrations received after February 28 each year for the following school year would be considered late registrations and only considered alongside a review of the capacity of the school. All Catholic families that have registered for French Immersion programming have been approved up to and including for the 2024-25 school year.

Following the cycle of registrations for the 2024-25 school year, senior administration recognized that additional admissions processes and criteria must be established by the Board for French Immersion programs to ensure school capacities are not exceeded over the long-term. Regardless of the additional processes and criteria and at the discretion of the Board, Junior Kindergarten admission requests may be given priority where siblings are enrolled at the same school. It continues to be our Board's strong belief that families are best served by keeping them at the same elementary school. The Board's Admission of Students procedure will be updated. These additional processes and criteria may result in some families having to register in English programs and being placed on a waitlist for French Immersion programming.

The Board's Associate Director responsible for admissions and planning, along with the Superintendent of Education responsible for French Immersion program and K-12 Consultant for French Immersion programming, visited our four elementary French Immersion Catholic School Advisory Councils to ensure collaboration with parents, guardians and school administrators. This collaboration has informed additional processes and criteria for the 2025-26 junior kindergarten registrations. The dates of the meetings attended are noted below.

Christ the King Catholic School – October 2, 2024
Monsignor Uyen Catholic School – October 8, 2024
St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim – November 6, 2024
Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School – November 27, 2024

After careful analysis of school capacities, Junior Kindergarten enrolment caps for 2025-26 have been set as follows, and may be reassessed each year:

Christ the King – 27

Gregory A. Hogan – 67

Monsignor Uyen – 42

St. Anne Blenheim – 24

The projections provided in this report were created in November 2024 and include the enrolment cap for each French Immersion school.

Christ the King

Christ the King became a full French Immersion school for the first time in the 2024-25 school year. with the additions of new grades offering French Immersion throughout the past 5 years, Christ the King continued to grow, increasing from 131 students to 231. Projections, as indicated in the table below suggest stabilization of enrolment going forward, and the cap of 27 pupils is not currently projected to be reached.

**Christ the King
Enrolment History by Grade**

School Year	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
2019-2020	27	26	35	19	24						131
2020-2021	22	26	26	33	17	23					147
2021-2022	20	24	23	24	33	15	21				160
2022-2023	18	21	24	22	23	31	16	20			175
2023-2024	21	19	23	24	23	23	31	17	17		198
2024-2025	25	24	20	24	24	24	23	32	18	17	231

* FI Program started at Christ the King in 2016-2017 with FDK only

**Enrolment Projections
as at 2024-11-21**

School Year	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
2025-2026	24	27	25	20	24	24	24	24	32	18	242
2026-2027	18	26	27	25	20	24	24	25	24	32	245
2027-2028	23	20	27	27	25	20	24	25	25	24	240
2028-2029	23	25	21	27	27	25	20	25	25	25	243
2029-2030	23	25	26	21	27	27	25	21	25	25	245
2030-2031	23	25	26	26	21	27	27	25	21	25	246

2024-2025 will be the first graduating class from Christ the King.

Gregory A. Hogan

Gregory A. Hogan has continued to show growth, increasing from 529 students in 2019 to 617 in 2024. Most of the growth has occurred in the past 2 years. Projections suggest continued growth in French Immersion in Sarnia. The cap of 67 is not currently projected to be reached in Junior Kindergarten, however, it may limit the number of student additions in other grades throughout the years.

Gregory A. Hogan Enrolment History by Grade

School Year	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
2019-2020	62	63	68	60	70	46	51	44	34	31	529
2020-2021	65	60	57	60	54	64	44	49	45	33	531
2021-2022	52	67	61	56	56	47	63	45	49	44	540
2022-2023	53	56	68	58	53	53	41	59	46	49	536
2023-2024	48	58	65	70	63	64	52	46	61	51	578
2024-2025	74	55	67	68	67	60	64	52	49	61	617

Enrolment Projections as at 2024-11-21

School Year	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
2025-2026	66	74	59	67	65	67	57	65	54	51	625
2026-2027	62	67	74	60	64	67	64	58	67	56	639
2027-2028	63	67	67	74	57	66	64	65	60	67	650
2028-2029	63	67	67	67	74	59	63	65	67	62	654
2029-2030	63	67	67	67	64	74	56	64	67	67	656
2030-2031	63	67	67	67	67	64	74	56	64	67	656



Monsignor Uyen

Monsignor Uyen has increased from 305 students to 391 students in the past five years, with the majority of the growth occurring in the past two years. Projections indicate continued growth in French Immersion at this school, as indicated in the tables below. The cap of 42 is currently projected to be reached in Junior Kindergarten for the next five years.

Monsignor Uyen Enrolment History by Grade

School Year	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
2019-2020	30	26	37	28	45	33	27	32	22	25	305
2020-2021	41	29	24	34	27	45	31	23	30	22	306
2021-2022	31	43	27	22	31	27	44	30	23	28	306
2022-2023	32	32	45	25	22	32	25	45	30	21	309
2023-2024	51	40	37	44	31	24	32	27	46	29	361
2024-2025	59	50	38	39	41	29	26	34	27	48	391

Enrolment Projections as at 2024-11-21

School Year	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
2025-2026	42	59	50	36	40	41	30	28	34	27	387
2026-2027	42	42	59	50	37	40	42	32	28	34	406
2027-2028	42	42	42	59	50	37	41	42	32	28	415
2028-2029	42	42	42	40	59	50	38	42	42	32	429
2029-2030	42	42	42	40	42	59	50	40	42	42	441
2030-2031	42	42	42	42	40	42	59	50	40	42	441



St. Anne, Blenheim

French Immersion in Blenheim has seen slight growth, moving from 158 students in 2019 to 168 students in 2024. Projections illustrate enrolment will continue to grow slightly over the next few years. The cap of 24 is not currently projected to be reached in Junior Kindergarten.

St. Anne Blenheim (FI only) Enrolment History by Grade

School Year	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
2019-2020	24	22	18	15	15	15	19	5	15	10	158
2020-2021	26	20	22	12	11	11	14	18	4	17	155
2021-2022	14	27	17	16	11	9	10	14	19	5	142
2022-2023	22	17	26	16	16	10	9	10	12	16	154
2023-2024	21	26	18	24	14	17	11	9	12	12	164
2024-2025	19	22	25	16	24	14	17	11	8	12	168

Enrolment Projections as at 2024-11-21

School Year	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
2025-2026	17	20	22	23	15	24	14	17	11	8	171
2026-2027	17	18	20	20	22	15	24	14	17	11	178
2027-2028	20	18	18	18	19	22	15	24	14	16	184
2028-2029	20	21	18	16	17	19	23	15	24	14	187
2029-2030	20	21	21	16	15	17	20	23	15	23	191
2030-2031	20	21	21	21	16	15	17	20	23	15	189



St. Patrick's Catholic High School

St. Patrick's French immersion program has remained relatively stable, with a large growth in 2023-24. Overall, the program has grown from 117 students to 159 students in the past five years. Projections indicate French Immersion will continue to grow over the next few years.

St. Patrick's Enrolment History by Grade

School Year	9	10	11	12	Total
2019-2020	40	38	17	22	117
2020-2021	27	35	37	18	117
2021-2022	26	27	33	34	120
2022-2023	40	25	23	34	122
2023-2024	63	40	24	26	153
2024-2025	52	48	39	20	159

Enrolment Projections as at 2024-11-21

School Year	9	10	11	12	Total
2025-2026	66	51	46	39	202
2026-2027	55	65	49	46	215
2027-2028	60	54	63	49	226
2028-2029	73	59	52	63	247
2029-2030	67	72	57	54	250
2030-2031	73	66	69	58	266



Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School

Ursuline College's French immersion program has remained relatively stable in the past five years, with growth occurring in 2024-25. Overall, the program has grown from 127 students to 145 students in the past five years. Projections indicate the program will continue to grow. The growth is partly due to Christ the King beginning to have graduates attending secondary school in the 2025-26 school year.

Ursuline College Enrolment History by Grade

School Year	9	10	11	12	Total
2019-2020	46	28	32	21	127
2020-2021	30	40	26	30	126
2021-2022	43	27	39	26	135
2022-2023	31	30	23	38	122
2023-2024	33	31	28	27	119
2024-2025	53	31	29	32	145

Enrolment Projections as at 2024-11-21

School Year	9	10	11	12	Total
2025-2026	75	50	29	32	186
2026-2027	53	71	47	32	203
2027-2028	75	50	67	50	242
2028-2029	67	71	47	72	257
2029-2030	72	64	67	56	259
2030-2031	91	68	60	72	291

2025-2026 will be the first graduating class from Christ the King to attend Ursuline College.



Overall Growth

The table below illustrates the overall growth in French Immersion across the Board of 25.16% over the past five years.

Overall Board Summary French Immersion Program

School	2019-2020 # FI Students as at 2019-10-31	2024-2025 # FI Students as at 2024-10-31	% Change (5 years)
Christ the King	131	231	76.34%
Gregory A. Hogan	529	617	16.64%
Monsignor Uyen	305	391	28.20%
St. Anne, Blenheim	158	168	6.33%
Ursuline College	127	145	14.17%
St. Patrick's	117	159	35.90%
Total FI Students	1367	1711	25.16%

Recommendations

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *French Immersion Program Update*, for information.