



**Waterloo Region
District School Board**

Doon South Elementary Schools Boundary Study

Frequently Asked Questions Re: French Immersion

Will the New South Kitchener (Groh Drive) school have French Immersion (FI)?

There are several scenarios being explored that include a FI program at the New South Kitchener (Groh Drive) school. Due to current enrolment numbers in the FI programs at Brigadoon and J.W. Gerth Public Schools, if the new school opens in 2015, it could offer up to Grade 3 FI and if it opens in 2016, it could offer up to Grade 4 FI (additional grades would be offered in subsequent years).

If the New South Kitchener (Groh Drive) school does not offer French Immersion for all the grades, will my child be grandfathered at their current school?

If the New South Kitchener school does not offer FI classes in the grade that your child is in, they would be grandfathered at their current school as long as they remain in the FI program. Siblings would also be eligible to stay at minimum until the grandfathered FI student has graduated from that site.

Example: In 2015/16 Sibling 1 is in Grade 5 FI and Sibling 2 is in Grade 3 FI at Brigadoon Public School. This family's home is in the new South Kitchener school boundary beginning in 2016/17. Grade 6 FI is not offered at the new South Kitchener school in 2016/17, but Grade 4 FI is; therefore Sibling 1 is grandfathered at Brigadoon Public School for the 2016/17. Sibling 2 has the option to remain at Brigadoon Public School for the 2016/17, but may be required to change schools in 2017/18.

Note: Student Transportation is governed by *Board Policy 4009* and *Administrative Procedure 4260*. If your child is not eligible for transportation under the terms outlined therein, transportation to and from school will be the sole responsibility of the parent/ guardian. Trustees may opt to grandfather transportation to out of boundary students (as in example above for a period of time).

How do I register for French Immersion?

The WRDSB's FI program has one entry point – Grade 1. The FI registration process begins in January (this year it is Thursday January 9th, 2014) on the WRDSB website, www.wrdsb.ca.

Grade 1 FI classes will be generated using a lottery system through the following process:

- Registrants who have a sibling enrolled in the FI program will be given preference for placement into the program until the end of January
- Registrants who live within the geographical boundary of the school, and have been registered prior to the end of January, will be placed next. If the number of residential boundary registrants exceeds the number of spaces available in the program (20 per class), and all students with older siblings are placed, a lottery system will be used to determine acceptance into the program.
- If space is available, students from out of boundary will be placed in the program via lottery.
- Any registrations received after January 31, 2014 will be placed in available classes or on waiting lists in the order they register regardless of residency.

My child is attending a school that is outside of my home school's geographical boundary (e.g., attending Brigadoon P.S. for FI, but live in the J.W. Gerth P.S. boundary) will these boundary changes affect me?

Since there are no boundaries for FI, if your child was accepted as an out of boundary student to a school, they may not be affected by boundary changes. Please double check with the WRDSB Planning Department 519-570-0003 ext. 4419.