

1. Rationale

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) acknowledges the value of additional language learning to support student achievement and learner pathways. The SCDSB is committed to offering learning opportunities to students in French as a Second Language (FSL). This policy is intended to set out parameters for the SCDSB's Extended French as a Second Language (EFSL) program.

2. Policy

It is the policy of the SCDSB to offer EFSL programs at both the elementary and secondary panels. The EFSL program will be phased out the end of the 2023-2024 school year due to the implementation of the French Immersion program.

3. Definitions

3.1 The elementary EFSL program is an additional language learning program which develops students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in the French language. In an EFSL program, French is taught as a subject and it also serves as the language of instruction in other subjects. The 2019-2020 school year is the final year for the EFSL program to be offered in elementary schools.

3.2 The secondary EFSL program requires students to successfully complete four FSL language courses, one at each grade level, and a minimum of three additional courses in other subjects taught in French, for a total of seven credits, in order to receive a "Certificate of Completion" in EFSL at the end of Grade 12. The 2023-2024 school year is the final year for the EFSL program to be offered in secondary schools.

3.3 Available space is defined as one or more available student seats in a particular class, grade or course based on SCDSB staffing and class size provisions and the terms of any relevant legislation and/or collective agreement.

4. EFSL Program Relocations and Attendance Areas

4.1 EFSL program locations are based on accommodation needs and/or pressures. If a program relocation is recommended, the Director of Education shall bring the recommendation forward to the Board for approval by November 30 of the year prior to any changes.

4.2 When considering the relocation of classes for the following September, the SCDSB shall consider:

- 4.2.1 the availability of qualified FSL teachers;
- 4.2.2 adequate facility space and the availability of space for portables;
- 4.2.3 the site's capacity to accommodate increased vehicular traffic;
- 4.2.4 the site's potential for program expansion year by year;

Page 2

4.2.5 the site's ability to maintain a dual-track model (i.e. English and French programs).

4.3 EFSL Attendance Areas:

4.3.1 Students will attend the designated EFSL site based on their residential address.

4.3.2 EFSL programs will adhere to schools closed to out-of-attendance-area students, as outlined in the annual SCDSB Capital Plan.

4.3.3 If an EFSL school site is open to out-of-attendance-area students, families wishing for their student to attend that site in lieu of their designated EFSL school site, are required to apply as per Administrative Procedures Memorandum (APM) A7000 - School Attendance Areas, using the Request to Attend an Out-of-Attendance-Area School and Conditions process.

5. Program Admissions

5.1 Late Entry: Given available space and at the principal's discretion, students may be admitted into the EFSL program at any point in the year.

5.2 Program Delivery

5.2.1 Instruction in French in the elementary EFSL program shall be a minimum of 40 percent (1504 hours by the end of Grade 8) and up to 50 percent (1880 hours by the end of Grade 8).

5.2.2 Instruction in French in the secondary EFSL program shall be a minimum of 770 hours after successfully completing seven credits.

5.2.3 Special education support will be provided in English, unless support in French is available at the school.

5.2.4 Combined grades/courses may be organized for the EFSL program as needed, subject to the terms of the collective agreement.

6. Transportation

6.1 Transportation is available to students enrolled in EFSL programs in accordance with Policy 2410 - Transportation of Students, and APM A1225 - Transportation of Students - Courtesy Riders on Commuter and Program Transportation.

6.2 The Director of Education is authorized to establish commuter routes from secondary schools to the location of the EFSL program.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION	4100
FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: EXTENDED FRENCH	4115

Page 3

7. Administrative Procedures

The Director of Education is authorized to provide the administrative procedures necessary to implement this policy.

**ADOPTED NOVEMBER 23, 1988
REVISED FEBRUARY 27, 1991
REVISED JUNE 20, 2012
REVISED DECEMBER 18, 2013
REVISED NOVEMBER 25, 2015
REVISED APRIL 24, 2019**

[APM A8010](#)