

Education and Training

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June 2016

To: Superintendents of School Divisions offering the French Immersion Program Principals of French Immersion Schools (K-8)
Divisional French Language Consultants

Dear Colleagues:

Subject: Implementation of the K-8 Français Curriculum Framework for the French Immersion Program

The Bureau de l'éducation française (BEF), a division of Manitoba Education and Training, is pleased to announce the upcoming publication of the new K-8 Français curriculum framework, *Programme d'études : cadre curriculaire*, for the French Immersion Program. This document will be sent to schools and posted on the department's website at www.edu.gov.mb.ca/m12/progetu/fl2/index.html at the end of August 2016.

The curriculum framework includes:

- a renewed vision of the French Immersion Program in Manitoba;
- conceptual and pedagogical underpinnings for French language acquisition in a competency-based approach;
- grade-band learning expectations and their associated grade-level learnings.

Schools and school divisions offering the French Immersion Program are invited to begin implementation of the new curriculum framework as per the following calendar:

- 2016-2017 Voluntary Implementation
- 2017-2018 Voluntary Implementation
- 2018-2019 Compulsory Implementation

However, schools and school divisions will be able to choose to begin the implementation process according to two models of implementation – Model A and Model B – depending on school or school division's preferences and needs. The two models are described on the following page.

MODEL A

Description	BEF's Contribution	School Division's Contribution
 Professional development pertaining to the following: presenting the new curriculum framework; developing a common understanding; developing a deeper understanding of the new framework. 	Offer a limited number of professional development opportunities for a maximum number of participants. (Please visit the BEF's workshop registration system, Coup d'oeil sur l'année, at www.ateliers.mb.ca.)	 Offer release time for teachers who wish to participate in PD opportunities; Continue the implementation process independently at the school or divisional level.

MODEL B

Description	BEF's Contribution	School Division's Contribution
 Supported professional development over a two-year period (for administrators, teachers and selected team leaders); Ongoing professional development that will foster reflective practice throughout the implementation process. 	Assist teachers, through reflective practice, in exploring and developing a deep understanding of the curriculum framework over two consecutive years of implementation.	 Provide a divisional representative who will work collaboratively with the BEF consultant in both preparing and delivering professional development; Provide two days of release time for every Français teacher in the school division during the first year of supported implementation and one day of release time for every teacher during the second year;
		Provide two to four half-days of release time for team leaders during both years of implementation. (One to two teachers per school).

Model B will be offered to three groups of interested school divisions according to the following schedule:

2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
1 st Group			
	2 nd Group		
	3 rd Group		

Given the resources available to the BEF and in our wish to accommodate professional learning requests to the greatest extent possible, in particular those related to Model B, we invite you share your preferred model and calendar of implementation with us.

To inform us of your preference or for all inquiries related to the implementation or the contents of the new Français curriculum framework, please contact Huguette Gérardy, Curriculum Consultant, at 204-945-6930, toll-free at 1-800-282-8069, extension 6930, or by email at huguette.gerardy@gov.mb.ca.

We hope that this information will be useful in your decision-making process in regards to the implementation of the K-8 Français curriculum framework.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Gilbert Michaud
Director
Curriculum Development and Implementation Branch

c.c.: Huguette Gérardy, Curriculum Consultant, BEF