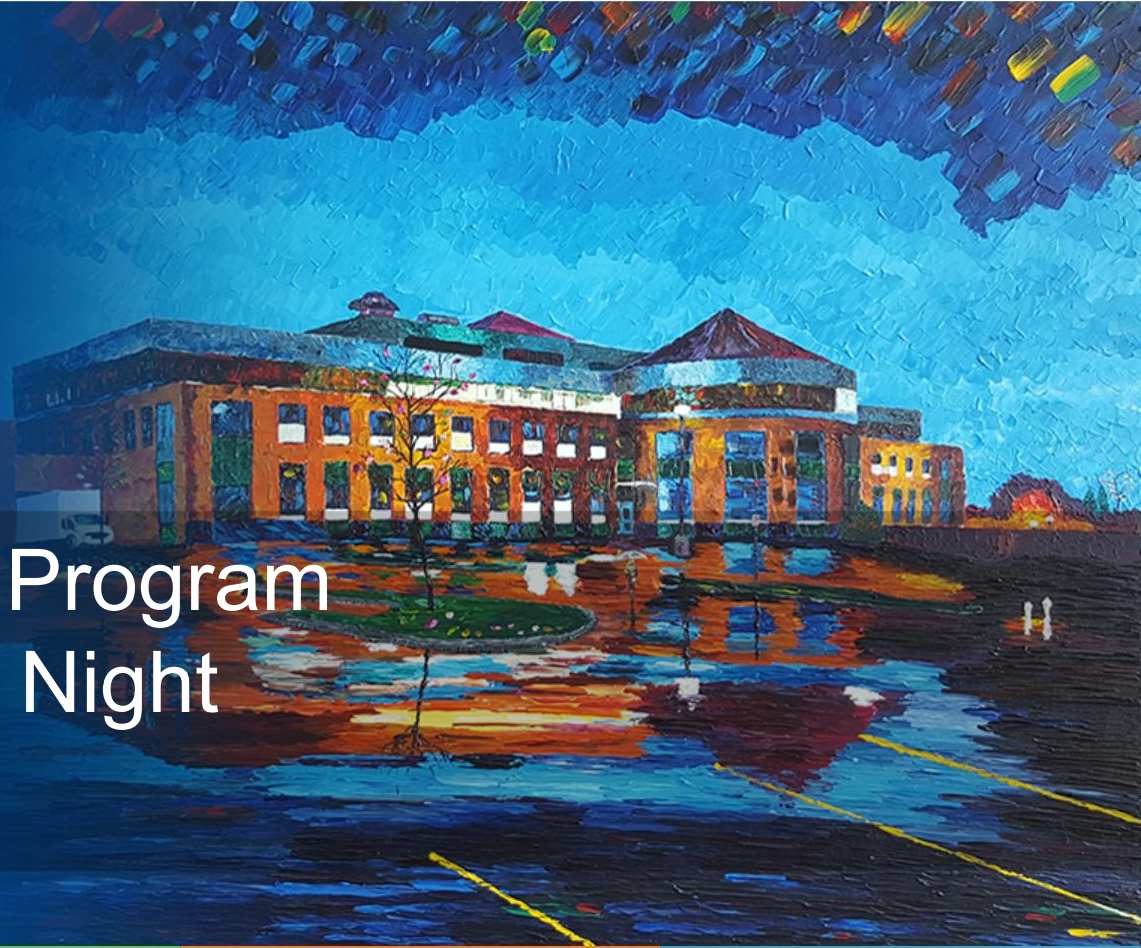




# French Immersion Program Parent Information Night

2023



# OPENING PRAYER

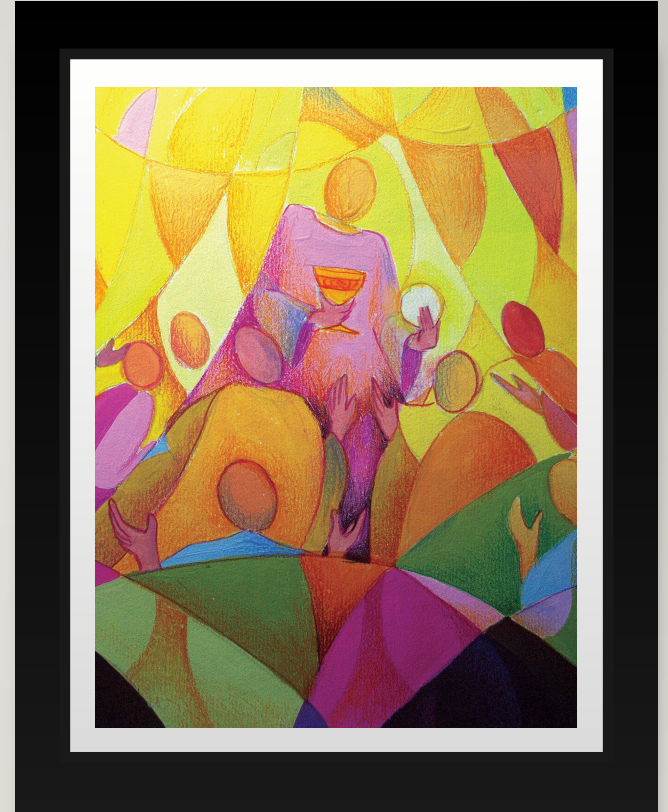
Dear God

Be with us as we create inclusive places of learning that invite and enable each child and young person in our care to grow fully to be all that you know and hope them to be.

Help us to model gratitude for all that has been gifted to us through your bountiful goodness.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.

Amen



# YCDSB LAND ACKNOWLEDGEME



**Todd Jamieson**  
*YCDSB Knowledge Keeper*

We are gathered on the ancestral lands and waters of all Indigenous Peoples, who have left their footprints on Mother Earth before us.

We respectfully acknowledge those who have walked on it, those who walk on it now, and future generations who have yet to walk upon it.

We pray to the Creator for strength and wisdom that all may continue to serve as stewards of the earth.



*CENTRAL  
MESSAGING  
ABOUT  
FRENCH  
IMMERSION  
PROGRAM*

# RATIONALE

- ✓ French is one of Canada's two official languages
- ✓ French is one of Ontario's two official languages of instruction
- ✓ Knowledge of a second language strengthens first-language skills
- ✓ Ability to speak two or more languages generally enhances reasoning and problem-solving, as well as creative-thinking skills
- ✓ Research shows children educated in content subjects (like science and geography) in two languages develop higher reasoning and analytical skills
- ✓ Knowledge of French provides students with an advantage in a number of careers, both in Canada and internationally



# DID YOU KNOW THAT...

(information courtesy of  
Ministry of Education)

Francophone permanent residents increased by 55 percent in Ontario between 2018 and 2019.

According to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), 5,245 French-speaking permanent residents chose to live in Ontario in 2019.

In 2019, Francophone immigration increased for the nine provinces and three territories outside Quebec.

As of 2016, Ontario is home to over 622,000 Francophones. Twenty-six regions in Ontario are declared “Francophone,” where residents have the right to access services in French.

# WHY CONTINUE IN FRENCH IMMERSION UNTIL GRADE 12?

## **Transferable skills in Finance/Business:**

- Students might start in a company with a higher pay structure based on having a bilingual status.
- Students might be assigned to work with a specific region that uses French to communicate.
- Continued development of FSL beyond Grade 12 allows students to learn sector specific language which can help with marketability within a company or sector.

## **Transferable skills in the Trades:**

- Students might find that work may take them to a region where French is the language most used (i.e., Ice Storm - Eastern Ontario).
- Students might find that some of their colleagues may have moved to our region to gain work, speaking French allows for better collaboration
- Continued use of French beyond Grade 12 allows students to communicate with a greater breadth of people and could result in mobility within a company.

# FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

Core French	French Immersion
French is the language of instruction.	French is the language of instruction
Minutes per week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Grades 1-6 = 120 minutes</li><li>● Grades 7-8 = 160 minutes</li></ul>	Minutes per week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Grades 1-3 = 1275 minutes <b>85%</b></li><li>● Grades 4-8 = 750 minutes <b>50%</b></li></ul>
Timeline: Grade 1 - 12 (Grade 1-8 = Minimum 600 hours)	Begins: Grade 1 - 12 (Grade 1-8 = Minimum 3800 hours)



# FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM BY SUBJECT

Grade	French	English
1-3	Language, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Health, Music, Visual Arts, Drama/Dance	Religious Education/Family Life, Physical Education
4-6	Language, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Health, Visual Arts	Religious Education, Family Life, Language, Mathematics, Music, Drama/Dance
7-8	Language, Science, History/Geography, Physical Education, Health, Visual Arts	Religious Education, Family Life, Language, Mathematics, Music, Drama/Dance
9	Geography, Religious Education, French	5 additional credits
10	History, Religious Education, French	5 additional credits
11-12	Religious Education, French	6 additional credits

# CURRICULUM: SUBJECTS TAUGHT IN FRENCH

- Students will be taught the Ontario Curriculum
- By the end of the Primary grades:
  - Expectations are as outlined in the English-language subject curriculum documents
  - Learning resources provided in French align with the Ontario English language curriculum
- Students will achieve the English language curriculum expectations by the end of Grade 8
- Assessment and evaluation of students is consistent with Board procedures and practices for all students

# STANDARDIZED TESTING

## EQAO

- **Grade 3: Math (French)**
- **Grade 6: Reading, Writing, Math (English) (Option to use bilingual glossary of Math terms)**

## PACE

- **PACE testing done in Grade 4 (English)**

# FRENCH IMMERSION SCHOOLS BY COMMUNITY

**Aurora:** St. Joseph Aurora

**Concord:** St. Joseph the Worker

**Keswick:** St. Thomas Aquinas

**Maple:** Blessed Trinity

**Markham:** St. Edward, St. Francis Xavier

**Newmarket:** St. Elizabeth Seton

**Richmond Hill:** Christ the King, St. Marguerite D'Youville

**Stouffville:** Blessed Chiara Badano

**Thornhill:** St. Anthony

**Unionville:** St. John XXIII

**Woodbridge:** St. John Bosco, Our Lady of Fatima

## Transportation

For specific wording, please refer to [policy 203](#). Eligibility can be confirmed by calling Student Transportation Services of York Region at 905-713-2535 or 1-877-330-3001.

# TRANSPORTATION (ELEMENTARY PANEL)

In elementary, transportation eligibility is determined based on where you live. Transportation is not provided to those students attending a program from outside that program's boundary.

Transportation will be provided to:

- FI Grades 1-3 students residing 1.2 km beyond the school and within the FI boundary
- FI Grades 4-8 students who live beyond 1.6 km and within FI boundary. Students are required to walk a short distance to and from centralized bus stops.

# TRANSPORTATION (SECONDARY PANEL)

In Secondary, the FI program does not have specific boundaries. Transportation is limited to:

- A student who resides within the regular track boundary of the FI school they attend, are eligible for transportation as per the distance parameters identified in parameter 3.1 iii of Board policy 203.
- A student who resides outside the regular track boundary of the FI school they attend, in a **non-transit served** (refer to definition in policy 203) area, are eligible for transportation as per the French Immersion Service Area Maps (these maps can be accessed via [www.ycdsb.ca/frenchimmersion/](http://www.ycdsb.ca/frenchimmersion/)). In all cases, Non-Transportation Zones apply.
- As per policy 203, **transit served** is defined as a student who: can access public transit to and from school; lives within 1 km of a public transit stop; spends 75 minutes or less travelling to or from school (in a vehicle); and, requires three vehicles or less traveling to or from school.

# FRENCH IMMERSION APPLICATION PROCESS



Application process starts **Friday, December 1** for all interested students. This includes siblings of students in FI program must also apply online to indicate interest.



Online applications must be completed and submitted by **January 19, 2024** at [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca). If you are experiencing any difficulty accessing the online application, contact [help.ycdsb.ca](mailto:help.ycdsb.ca). Applicants who apply after this date will be placed on a waitlist if applicable.



After **January 25, 2024**, applications received will be prioritized according to (1) siblings of students presently in FI program, (2) students within the school's FI boundary, (3) students outside of the home FI boundary but within York Region, (4) students from outside York Region currently in SK.



If the number of applications exceeds the number of available openings, a public lottery process will be conducted at the FI school, at 5:00 p.m. on **January 19, 2024**. Approved applicants will be notified by the school between **February 1 and 8, 2024**.



# REGISTRATION PROCESS

1. Following the application & **lottery (if applicable)** process, the school will contact you when you are eligible to formally register your child.
2. Parents must indicate acceptance of placement by completing required forms no later than **February 8, 2024**.
3. Students who apply after **January 19, 2024** must call the school directly. Applicants will be placed on the bottom of of the lottery waitlist, if one is needed.

F

A

Q

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## 1. Why Early French Immersion (EFI)?

Research shows that Early Immersion leads to the highest fluency in French.

## 2. How does the French Immersion program impact student achievement in other subjects such as mathematics?

Research indicates that the performance of French Immersion students in other subjects is equal to the performance of students in the English program.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **3. How will my child be introduced to the French language?**

Teachers will model and communicate in French throughout the day. Students are also encouraged to communicate in French. As the year progresses, students will become more familiar with sounds and words.

## **4. Will my child's performance in English suffer?**

Learning subjects in French does not interfere with English-language development. In fact, it improves it. There is research that indicates that learning a second language has a positive effect on the students' first language skills. French Immersion students match and often exceed the English skills of other students by the junior grades.

# ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

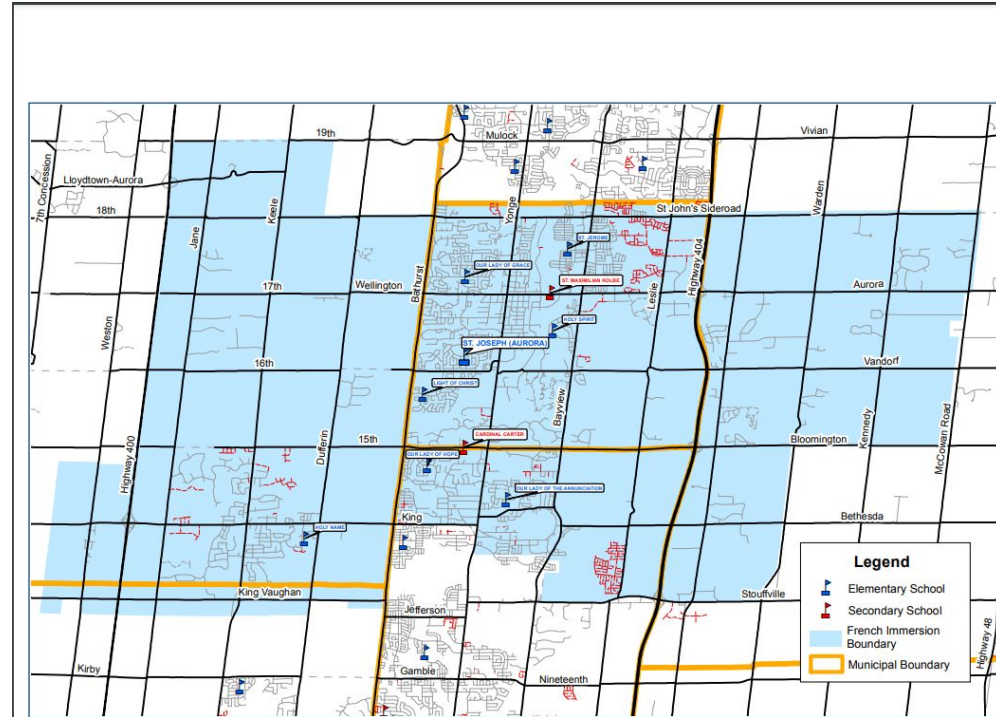


# ST. JOSEPH BOUNDARY MAP

Host school: St. Joseph Aurora CES

French Immersion Boundary Feeder Schools:

- Light of Christ
- Our Lady of Grace
- Holy Spirit
- St. Jerome
- Our Lady of Hope
- Our Lady of the Annunciation
- Holy Name



# COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Catholic School Council
- Central York Fire Department
- ShareLife
- Swim to Survive
- Town of Aurora
- Aurora Cultural Centre
- York Professional Child Care (Before and After Care:  
Tel: 905-841-1314 Shirley Black/Lindy Ness, Supervisor  
kidsclub@ypce.com)



# SCHOOL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS/COMMITTEES

- Boys & Girls Basketball & Volleyball (Junior/Intermediate)
- Cross Country Running
- Track and Field
- Terry Fox Walk/Run
- Parent Engagement presentations
- Chess club
- Engineering club
- Knitting club

- Play leaders
- Board games club
- Choir
- Catholic School Council
- Spirit Days
- Black History Month
- Shrove Tuesday
- Feast Day
- Carnaval
- Hot Lunch Program - 5 days/week (pizza, burritos, pitas, Italian food, Greek food)

- Healthy Snack Program
- Luke 4:18 Social Justice committee
- Charity drives for the needy
- Book Fair
- Kindness Weeks
- Catholic Education Week
- Scientist in the School





YOUR  
QUESTIONS

Thank you

A 3D rendered scene featuring the words "Thank you" in a bright cyan, bold, sans-serif font. The text is mounted on a plain, light gray wall, casting a soft shadow to its right. Below the wall is a wooden floor with a natural grain pattern. The lighting is soft and even, creating a clean and professional aesthetic.