

ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE LEARNING – OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Background

Prairie South School Division believes that each child should have the opportunity to explore and learn languages other than English as language learning develops awareness, sensitivity, appreciation and respect for one's culture, as well as other cultures.

Procedures

1. Language learning opportunities may be provided through:
 - 1.1 Immersion and Bilingual Education Programs
Immersion and bilingual programs are provincially designated programs where the language of instruction is 50% or more of a student program.
 - 1.2 Core Programs
Core programs are provincially recognized programs in which instruction does not usually exceed the equivalent of 150 minutes per week.
 - 1.3 Heritage Languages
Heritage language programs provide instruction in languages other than Indigenous languages or the two official languages of Canada – English and French.
2. The designation of schools for immersion and bilingual programs is to be as outlined in *The Education Act, 1995*.
3. The Board has reserved the right to approve the location and grade levels for language learning offerings.
4. Program offerings are to meet the goals, objectives, and requirements of provincially approved courses of study.
5. Approval to discontinue a language in any school must meet the following criteria:
 - 5.1 Formal recommendation to the Board demonstrating support from the School Community Council and the staff of the school requesting the discontinuation.
 - 5.2 A detailed plan and timeline for phasing out the program with the least impact to students, staff and the community.
 - 5.3 A detailed plan of how the time traditionally allocated to learning an additional language will be utilized. This plan will need to demonstrate alignment with division initiatives and comment how it will benefit students and improve student learning.
 - 5.4 Mechanisms are put in place for those students wishing to continue their learning of an additional language.

Reference: Section 85, 87, 180 Education Act
Section 36, 39, 40 Education Regulations