



*Office of the Director of Education*

November 2, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board welcomes the Province of Ontario's announcement of the implementation of full-day learning (or Early Learning Program--ELP) for children in junior and senior kindergarten beginning in September 2010. Full-day learning is expected to be fully implemented by the 2015-2016 school year.

For the first year of the program, the Province is funding full-day learning spaces for approximately 35,000 children across Ontario. For the Toronto Catholic District School Board, the Province reports that we will receive funding for approximately 61 full-day kindergarten classrooms across the system, serving a little more than 1,500 students.

For the first year of implementation, there is no capital funding being provided by the Province, therefore the following restrictions apply to school boards when recommending sites for full-day learning:

- School boards are expected to identify schools where ELP can be introduced without capital construction or renovations
- Selected schools should be schools where all JK/SK classes in 2010-2011 comply with the new model. (This will avoid situations where two or more program models are offered at the same site).
- The ELP classrooms opened in 2010-2011 should be new full-day JK/SK classrooms. Boards that are currently offering full-day JK/SK programs in some schools are expected to introduce the ELP in other schools.
- Community need is also a factor in site selection. A portion of the ELP spaces should be allocated to schools that serve low-income neighbourhoods.
- School boards and municipalities should work together to assess whether communities will be best served by selecting schools with existing child care programs, schools near existing licensed child care or schools in neighbourhoods where no child care is currently available for four- and five-year-olds.

We look forward to working with the Province to get further clarification regarding some of the outstanding issues. As discussions progress with the Province, our coterminous school board and the municipality over the coming weeks, we will share the information with our school communities as well as posting the information to the Board's website at [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Perron".

Ann Perron  
Director of Education