



DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Briefing Notes

Date: April 28, 2010

Topic: EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM UPDATE - Phase 2 Site Selection

TCDSB staff has completed the Ministry required consultations with identified partners and considered the prescribed criteria to finalize its selection of sites for the delivery of Phase 2 of the Early Learning Program for September 2011. The recommended sites are enclosed in this report.

- On October 27, 2009 the Ministry announced the implementation of ELP for September 2010. By November 30, 2009 the TCDSB was to select its proposed sites after consultation with the local municipality, Best Start Networks and the coterminous boards. This date was extended to December 9, 2009 by request of the TDSB and the TCDSB. On March 4, 2010, the selection criteria for Phase II was released and selections were to be submitted to the Ministry by April 16, 2010. This date was extended to the end of April for TDSB and TCDSB to enable consultation.

Year Two Selection Criteria:

- As part of the site selection process for ELP Phase II, the following factors have been considered. Boards will plan in consultation with their coterminous boards, local Best Start Networks, Consolidated Municipal Service Managers and District Social Services Administration Boards during the site selection process. Consideration has been given to the impact on existing child care and early years programs, including those operating on school premises.
 - geographic distribution from Year 1 sites (2500m)
 - all JK/SK classes in a school can accommodate the new model
 - schools did not have an early French-Immersion program
 - minimize impact on Best Starts and current childcare
 - impact of ELP on primary class size compliance
 - impact on grades 4-8 class averages
 - impact on existing child care programs

Based on this criteria, staff recommended that the sites presented below be submitted to the Ministry of Education by April 29, 2010 for final Ministry approval on May 21, 2010.

Year One Selection Criteria:

- Availability of space (no capital expenditures or renovation required)
- Community need (priority neighbourhood service factor)
- Minimal impact on existing child care and early years programs
- Student achievement (LICO data)
- Readiness to implement (all JK/SK classes will be compliant)

General Points of Consideration for Years One and Two:

- On April 27, 2010, the Full-Day Early Learning Statute Law Amendment Act, 2010 (Bill 242) was passed in the Ontario Legislature. Further details can be found at the following website: <http://news.ontario.ca/edu/en/2010/04/ontario-passes-full-day-learning-act.html>
- The Ministry has released the draft curriculum for the Early Learning Program. A link to this draft document is posted on the board's website at: www.tcdsb.org/early%20learning%20program/earlylearning.htm. TCDSB will be reviewing the document and adapting it to reflect our Religion and Family Life program and Catholic church teachings.
- Rates have not yet been established for the before- and after-school portion of the full-day learning program, pending Ministry direction. Note that this program is to be offered on a cost-recovery basis. Once the rate is established, families will be surveyed to determine the level of interest in before- and after-school care given the cost. At this time the **estimated fee** for the program will be in the range of \$25 -- \$35 / day.
- Schools were already provided with a letter encouraging families who require subsidy for child care to initiate the application process and get onto the waiting list even before the rates are established. This letter, as well as other communications to our parents and schools, is also posted on the board's website.
- Angie Sferlazza is available at 416-222-8282 ext. 2584 to provide further information on these issues if required.

Year II Proposed Sites

Name
St. Charles Garnier
Our Lady of Lourdes
St. Norbert
Holy Rosary
St. Dominic Savio
Nativity of Our Lord
St. Teresa
St. Wilfrid
St. Rita
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys