



October 10th, 2018

Dear Grade 8 Parents and Students of James Culnan Catholic School:

In December 2017, the Toronto Catholic District School Board approved the introduction of the French Immersion Program at Bishop Marrocco/Thomas Merton starting in September 2019, when the program will be introduced for incoming grade 9 students.

This is part of the Board's ongoing commitment to offer dynamic educational opportunities across the City of Toronto, as part of the Long Term Program Plan (LTPP). Aspects of the plan include opportunities for enhanced programming including French Immersion and Extended French Programs.

As part of the school's efforts to promote this new program, in addition to the comprehensive program offerings at the school, BMTM invites you to an information evening on **Wednesday October 17 2018 at 7:00 pm**. At this session, the school will introduce its vision for the program and the unique nature of the pathway associated with French Specialty at BMTM. Included in the presentation will be the opportunity for students to choose the Extended French stream as an option within the French Specialty compliment.

This French Specialty pathway option is restricted to students who have accumulated a minimum number of hours of French Instruction by the end of Grade 8. For students who wish to pursue French Immersion, the prerequisite minimum hours of instruction is 3,800. Students who wish to enter the Extended French Program, must have completed the minimum of 1260 hours.

The Board's elementary Immersion and Extended French Programs meet the hour requirements for each and are therefore appropriate prerequisites for each respectful program. At the secondary level, the French Specialty pathway is successfully completed when the minimum required courses are passed by the student. Extended French requires 7 courses (4 French and 3 Academic in French Language) while French Immersion requires 10 courses (4 French and 6 Academic in French Language).

We look forward to welcoming students and their families to an evening that will introduce the uniqueness of the Bishop Marrocco /Thomas Merton program and assist you in your discussions as you consider secondary schools for your son or daughter in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Wujek".

John Wujek
Superintendent of Student Achievement & Well Being,
Area 5 Schools

cc. Barbara Poplawski, Trustee Ward 10