

CDSBEO Early Literacy Update

At the September 15th Board Meeting, an Early Literacy Update was provided to Trustees by Angie McNamee, Principal of Special Education, and Andrea Blaine, Early Literacy Consultant. CDSBEO's commitment to early literacy is reflected in a comprehensive, system-wide approach grounded in evidence-based practice and informed by the Science of Reading. Guided by strategic planning and in alignment with the Multi-Year Strategic Plan's focus on student achievement and well-being, the Board has implemented a robust Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) in early literacy. This framework ensures that Tier 1 classroom instruction reaches approximately 80 per cent of students, while Tiers 2 and 3 deliver increasingly targeted interventions for those requiring additional support.

The implementation of the Acadience Reading Screener for all Year 2 Kindergarten to Grade 2 students has provided critical data for benchmarking and guiding instructional decision-making. Reading Intervention Teachers (RITs) have played a pivotal role throughout the academic year, facilitating screenings, modeling structured literacy lessons, and leading professional development initiatives to build instructional capacity across elementary schools. The innovative "Walk to Read" initiative further demonstrates the Board's commitment to providing targeted, skill-based instruction, resulting in significant gains in student reading fluency and engagement.

As the Board advances toward the 2025–2026 school year, the strategic expansion of specialized roles, enhanced digital screening tools, and the extension of proven programs such as Empower Reading underscore a sustained and collective effort to improve foundational literacy outcomes for every learner.

French as a Second Language Initiatives and Actions

At the September 15th Board Meeting, French as a Second Language (FSL) Consultants Cameron Mitchell and Jordan Prophet provided an update on FSL programs and achievements. The presentation underscored the Board's ongoing commitment to fostering collaboration and supporting teachers through access to resources and professional learning.

The Board's FSL strategy is guided by evidence-based approaches, such as the Neurolinguistic Approach, and is supported by annual participation in the DELF (Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française) assessment - 215 students in 2025, up from 198 in 2024, indicating growth in language proficiency and program uptake. Meaningful cultural experiences further enrich the program, with planned excursions to Quebec City and to France.

From the meeting held September 15, 2025

By providing strong support for administrators through ongoing program evaluation and professional development, the Board demonstrates its strategic commitment to student engagement, language acquisition, and cultural competence, ensuring that equitable and enriching French language opportunities are available to all CDSBEO learners.

"The continued growth and enthusiasm within our French program reflect the dedication of our educators and the curiosity of our students. It is wonderful to see our learners embrace language learning as a gateway to new opportunities and deeper cultural understanding," concluded Chair Cummings.

For more news and stories from our blog, we recommend...



[Welcome Back to School](#)



[World Suicide
Prevention Day](#)



[Honouring 45 Years of the
Terry Fox Run](#)