

Ministry of Education

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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
English-Language District School Boards

FROM: Kit Rankin
Director
Field Services Branch

DATE: June 25, 2009

SUBJECT: **Targeted Funding for the Renewal of French Second Language (FSL) Initiative for 2006-2007 to 2008-2009: Final Report for Board Projects**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide details about the final report for projects that were funded for the renewal of FSL for years two, three and four under the Canada-Ontario Agreement on Minority-Language Education and Second Official Language Instruction, 2005-2006 to 2008-2009. I am also informing you of an upcoming fall event and a new addition to the Ministry's website that will increase Ontario's FSL presence.

We expect to have the 2009-2010 to 2012-2013 bilateral agreement signed by the end of September 2009 and to inform you accordingly.

The Ministry is accountable to the federal government for the outcomes achieved with the funds allocated under bilateral agreements. The aim of the 2006 to 2008 targeted funding was to give boards the ability to develop and implement long-term initiatives which would result in:

- more engaged students and the establishment of FSL learning communities
- increased student retention and participation in FSL programs
- improved student performance in French
- enhanced teacher capacity in FSL
- increased number of courses / programs in French, particularly at the high school level
- innovative models and effective teaching and assessment practices that would be replicable in other boards and schools

All funded projects were expected to be sustainable beyond the funding period and to include:

- performance indicators to measure the effectiveness of the project and specific targets with timelines as appropriate

- a measurement strategy and data related to the performance indicators (e.g. marks, test scores, interviews, surveys)
- a commitment to document and share project models, materials, etc. that were used in or resulted from the projects.

Therefore, the 2008-2009 report to the Ministry should include targets achieved (e.g. percentage increases in student participation and retention rate in FSL programs, student performance in French, satisfaction ratings, quality improvement measures and program expansion) and a copy of the project reports and / or materials produced over the funding period, as well as a brief overview of the activities and a statement of expenditures for the 2008-2009 school year. A template for the activity and financial report is attached as a guide. You may wish to modify the template as appropriate. The final report and products are due by **September 14, 2009**.

In fall 2009, the Ministry is planning six one-day regional sessions to highlight the past three years' board project achievements and share best practices in order to build knowledge on effective instructional FSL strategies. Ministry regional staff will communicate shortly with their board FSL contacts to seek volunteers for small regional planning teams for the fall sessions.

In conclusion, I am pleased to inform you that information about Ontario's FSL programs has been posted on the Ministry's website in response to suggestions to increase visibility and recognition of the French programs offered in English-language boards that were made at a consultation of key FSL stakeholders last fall. The website content is intended for parents and can be accessed at <http://mettoas92.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/amenagement/FLS.html>.

Your continued partnership with the Ministry is appreciated in supporting our shared commitment to high-quality public education.

Kit Rankin

Attachment

c: Regional Managers