



Milton Elementary SBR to Accommodate FI Expansion – Information Meeting #2 Feedback Survey

Report of Online Survey Results

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Report of Online Survey Results

Survey Background

The purpose of this survey was to gather input from the community regarding the School Boundary Review Committee's preferred proposed boundary to accommodate French Immersion expansion in the Town of Milton. The survey was available online from Thursday September 9th to Friday September 17th, 2021. In total, 154 responses were received. Responses are aggregated and discussed below. While many stakeholders provided their feedback, the results are not representative of the entire HCDSB community and should be interpreted with caution.

Survey Results

About the Respondents: Demographics

When asked to select their role, the majority of respondents (n = 149; 96.8%) indicated that they were *parents/guardians* (see *Table 1*).

Table 1

Respondents' Roles

Role	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Parent/Guardian	149	96.8%
Student	3	1.9%
Other	2	1.3%
TOTAL	154	100%

If respondents selected *Parent/Guardian* as their role, they were then asked to select the school(s)¹ that their child(ren) attend. Most of the parent/guardian respondents indicated that they were part of the following three schools: *St. Scholastica* (n = 52; 34.9%); *St. Benedict* (n = 39; 26.2%); and, *Our Lady of Fatima* (n = 16; 10.7%). Please see [Appendix A](#) for the complete breakdown.

When asked for the current program(s) of their child(ren), the most selected answer was *Regular Track (English stream)* (n = 104; 69.8%). Please see [Appendix B](#) for the complete breakdown.

¹ Parents/Guardians with children in different schools were able to select more than one school.

Three students completed the survey. Each respondent's school and program are displayed below in *Table 2*.

Table 2

Students' School and Program

School	Program
St. Benedict CES	Extended French (Grade 5 entry)
St. Benedict CES	French Immersion (Grade 1 entry)
Any HCDSB secondary school	Other Programming (e.g. Special Education, Gifted, IB, AP)

Proposed Boundary Option A2

Q1: To what extent do you support the SBRC Recommended Boundary Option (Option A2)?

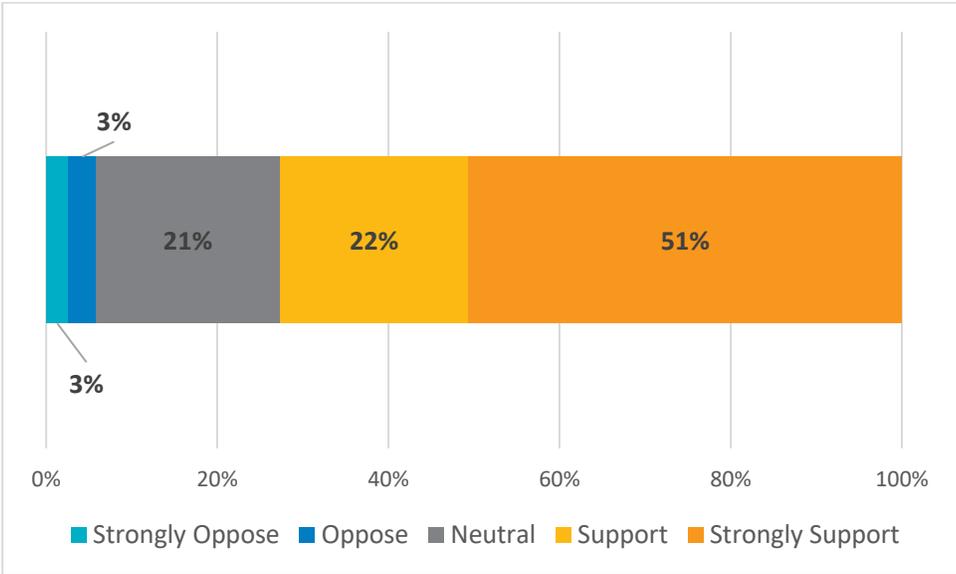
Results are presented for two groups of respondents, namely: (1) *All respondents*; (2) *Respondents enrolled in / have children enrolled in French Immersion*. As in shown in Figures 1 and 2 below, the pattern of results did not differ between these two groups; the majority of respondents supported Option A2.

All respondents

The majority of respondents (n = 112; 73%) indicated that they *support* or *strongly support* the proposed boundaries in Option A2 (see *Figure 1*).

Figure 1

Support of Proposed Boundaries in Option A2 – All Respondents (n = 154)

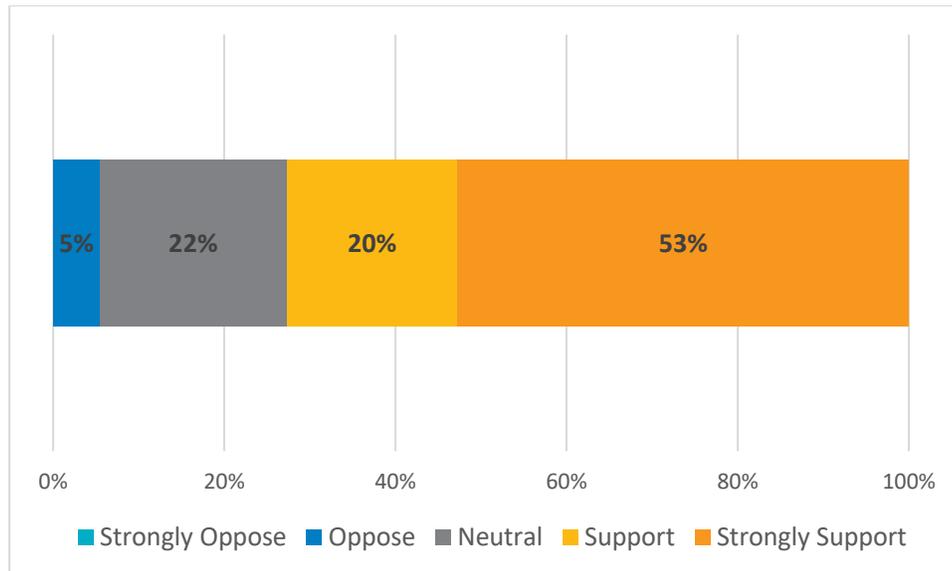


French Immersion Respondents

The majority of respondents (n = 40; 73%) indicated that they *support* or *strongly support* the proposed boundaries in Option A2 (see *Figure 2*).

Figure 2

Support of Option A for the Ultimate Boundaries – French Immersion Respondents (n = 55)



Q2: To what extent do you support the grandfathering of students as mentioned in the SBRC recommendation?

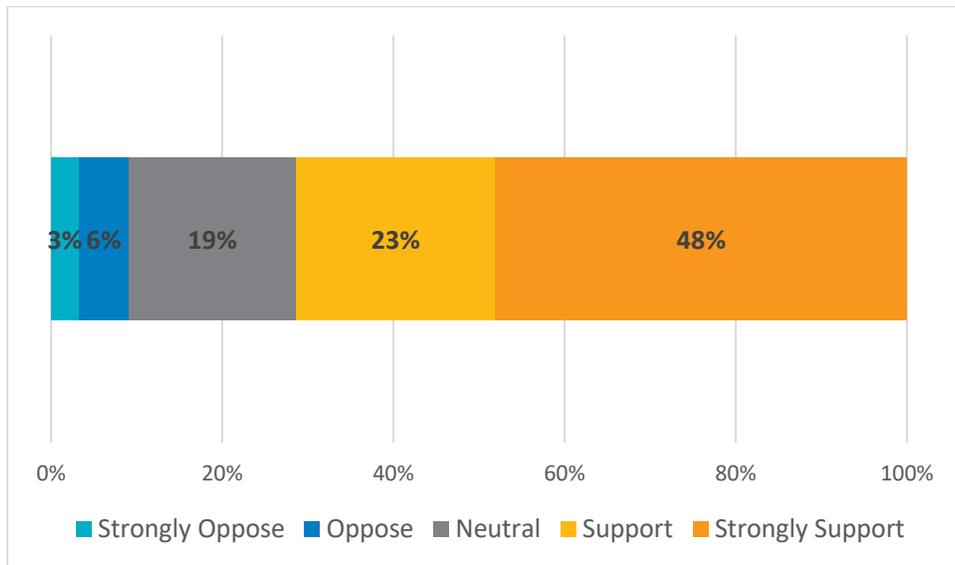
Results are presented for two groups of respondents, namely: (1) *All respondents*; (2) *Respondents enrolled in / have children enrolled in French Immersion*. As in shown in Figures 3 and 4 below, the pattern of results did not differ between these two groups; the majority of respondents supported the grandfathering of students.

All respondents

The majority of respondents (n = 110; 71%) indicated that they *support* or *strongly support* the grandfathering of students, as mentioned in the SBRC recommendation (see *Figure 3*).

Figure 3

Support of Grandfathering of Students – All Respondents (n = 154)

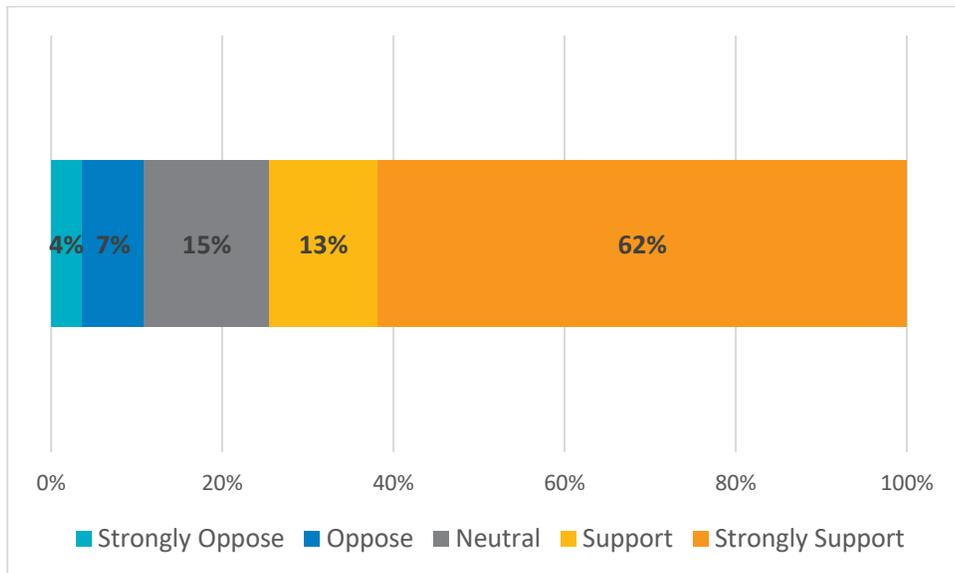


French Immersion Respondents

The majority of respondents (n = 41; 75%) indicated that they *support* or *strongly support* the grandfathering of students, as mentioned in the SBRC recommendation (see *Figure 4*).

Figure 4

Support of Grandfathering of Students – French Immersion Respondents (n = 55)



Q3: Do you have any final comments on the SBRC's recommended boundary or this boundary review?

Thirty-six respondents (23.4%) provided a comment. Please see [Appendix C](#) for the full list of comments.

Appendix A

Total Count of Respondents' School(s) (Parents/Guardians)

Schools	Count (n)	Percentage (%) ²
Guardian Angels CES	13	8.7%
Holy Rosary CES	12	8.1%
Lumen Christi CES	10	6.7%
Other (e.g. HDSB schools, private schools)	3	2.0%
Other HCDSB Elementary School	0	0.0%
Other HCDSB Secondary School	0	0.0%
Our Lady of Fatima CES	16	10.7%
Our Lady of Victory CES	2	1.3%
Queen of Heaven CES	9	6.0%
St. Anthony of Padua CES	13	8.7%
St. Benedict CES	39	26.2%
St. Peter CES	12	8.1%
St. Scholastica CES	52	34.9%
TOTAL	181	

² Total exceeds 100% as respondents were able to select more than one school.

Appendix B

Total Count of Respondents' Program(s) (Parents/Guardians)

Grade	Count (n)	Percentage (%) ³
Regular Track (English stream)	104	69.8%
French Immersion (Grade 1 entry)	54	36.2%
Extended French (Grade 5 entry)	11	7.4%
Other Programming (e.g. Special Education, Gifted, IB, AP)	8	5.4%
TOTAL	177	

³ Total exceeds 100% as respondents were able to select more than one program.

Appendix C

Final Comments as Received

2021-2022 Students move to the school as per the new boundary

All students who go to their current school should get first priority in that schools French programs.

Consideration to offer french immersion at the new school on whitlock/kennedy circle

Excellent option

FI should be available to continue at St. Peter CES.

French immersion students can't be changed to another school unless the student/family opts out

Great work! This is a viable long term solution for French immersion. Parents can build long-standing relationship with the school and staff. Kids don't have to worry about being split up.

Guardian Angels is already over crowded and I believe has the highest school population in Milton for an elementary school

Adding more kids does not seem like the right thing to do

While it would be nice to have the program close as my child wanted to do French immersion but didn't want her to go all the way over to St. Scholastica for it

Guardian Angels just doesn't seem like a good option given current population

Hopefully the Recommended Boundary Option (Option A2) will take place and will be happening next year.

I am in favor of this boundary as long as in a few years it does not change. We need to project with ensuring that immersion parents do not need to continue to have sibling separated and ensure sibling when in the same program can be in the same schools to support families.

I hope that this recommended boundary review decreases the amount of schools that families with children in FI programs attend. Although, this will take some time to happen, boundaries with a sustainable boundary system will positively benefit families who have spent years with siblings apart and have had to get to know multiple/many different school communities within one family. The grandfathering is crucial to the connection current FI kids will have with their peers and a school community they have already gotten to know.

I hope the students who are considered "grandfathered" will be given the option to attend the "boundary school" (to be with younger siblings, if they too are in the EFI program).

I really happy that kids have the opportunity to learn French since 1st grade and most school will be offered plus the development of new communities we need more schools.

I strongly oppose the grandfathering. I am displeased that my daughter was arbitrarily moved to a different FI school, and I was told I would not be able to transfer her to St. Scholastica which is our school boundary and where her sister attends. I want my children to be in the same school for the French Immersion program.

I wonder if the French Immersion new boundary will affect the Extended French programs offered by Our Lady of Fatima. I have asked this before and was not able to get an official answer. Please make this public.

I would like the French immersion program at St Benedict to continue in future years so my son (currently SK) can enroll without changing school.

My Sons enjoying learning where he is now. The location is very convenient for bussing. Its totally better if they would stay in the same school till they Graduate. So I strongly support this option 2

OPTION 2 IS AN EXCELLENT OPTION

Please consider having a solid plan for siblings to attend the same French immersion school. Our son (G2) goes to St. Scholastica and our daughter (SK) goes to our Lady of Fatima and we are planning to enroll her in the French immersion program. With the new boundary they will be in different schools which is unfeasible.

Please designate Lumen Christi as a French immersion providing school.

Please stop moving kids around and boundaries around! Some people choose their home based on the school they want their kids to attend.

Please plan ahead in terms of growth patterns instead of a school being maxed out after 3 years of opening. That's poor planning!

Please start providing incentives to new French teachers to join this board

Thanks

Regarding the grandfathering, it would be nice if the choice to remain or move to FI location closest to family residence be allowed with a set time to allow for this change.

Siblings of children currently in the program should also be grandfathered in. It is extremely difficult to manage multiple pick ups and drops off simply for my children to have access to a French education. As we move back and forth between virtual and in class it also remains challenging as lunches are at completely different times. Children are also robbed of the opportunity to share the school experience with their siblings. Consideration for siblings to be able to attend together is absent from all proposals and a big miss as an opportunity to rebuild a strong in-class experience as we return to in-class learning.

Thank you

thank you for all your hard work

Thank you for allowing parents to provide feedback

The FI schools keep changing so much. Families and kids are confused with the constant changes. The constant changes is also costing Parents money as they have to buy new uniform tops. The FI schools need to be fixed, the program can't keep on changing.

The grandfather clause - Fr Immersion St. Benedict program applies to my son. He enters Gr. 4 21/22 year.

The proposed Boundary is Perfect HOWEVER, my 2 sons are now currently enrolled in separate schools because of the inability of the HCDSB (Milton) to accommodate all students who (seriously) wanted to have French Immersion in their Catholic education in 2019. We had to pull out our eldest son from his Catholic elementary school (GACS- Milton) and enroll him at our District Public School - French Immersion program. We had to Sacrifice his Catholic Education for the opportunity to have French Immersion which was readily AVAILABLE to ANY STUDENT going to the HDSB- public schools (no one is turned away).

The Lottery System of (Random) selecting a French Immersion student is Not Right. It Cannot Identify those students who are truly committed into the French Immersion Program. Sadly, it has left out those students who are really interested in the French Immersion Program with no option but to leave their Catholic Elementary school (sacrificing their Catholic education) and go to the Public School -French Immersion Program (with greater accommodation). Our son is now in his grade 4 French Immersion Program (at our District Public School- Milton). We are still very much interested to get him Accommodated and to Continue his French Immersion Program (elementary) in a Catholic elementary school. His Faith and Spiritual growth needs to be reinforced thru his Catholic education while in his French Immersion Program. We are praying that this accommodation be available for students like our son. He miss going to Guardian Angels Catholic School(Milton) . We would very much prefer that both our children go to school and grow up on the same (Catholic) elementary school.

There are so many families with multiple kids in FI program at different schools. I would love my kids to be at school together, both in the FI program so I would also support students currently enrolled in FI across the grandfathered schools being at 1 school. i.e. all at St Benedict's, then starting the new proposed 4 school locations model for the 2022/2023 year.

There should be more opportunities and spaces for students to opt in for French immersion. It is imperative these proposed boundary changes will also increase capacity to ensure more students will have the opportunity to learn French.

There should be special inclusions regarding siblings. Siblings should be allowed to attend school together as it lessens the impact on parents.

This seems like a great option.

When housing optional programs at a school, it is essential that the board consider the effects the inevitable overpopulation in a school like St.Scholastica (with a growing community on it's own) has on the school community. Lack of space, increased use of portables (especially during times of covid...air quality issues), loss of a sense of community (students not knowing teachers and teachers not knowing students), and lack of resources are all things our children have had to endure at their home school, because an optional program is very rapidly overtaking the school.

When the new high school is ready in Milton (St. Kateri) will the French Immersion that is currently at Bishop Reding, remain at Bishop Reding or will it move to the new high school?

If you move the French Immersion program from Bishop Reding to St. Kateri, will you also be moving or offering the Advanced Placement program at St. Kateri?

Yes, I'd like to add that you please allow all grade 1 pupils join the program automatically (we still have our kids on the waiting list) since that's the only grade that they can actually begin this program and the next available time they can join us in grade 5.

I'd really like the board to look into this.

Thank you.