



Calgary Board of Education

Middle French Immersion

Tuscany Middle School

Program Offering

Starting in Grade 5, September 2012

The Calgary Board of Education is considering offering Middle French Immersion at Tuscany Middle School beginning in September 2012. This new entry point in French Immersion for the Calgary Board of Education would be the first in Alberta. With the expansion toward K-4 and middle school programs, this entry point provides students with the option to transition to a French Immersion program in Grade 5, at the same time they start middle school.

As with Early French Immersion which begins in Kindergarten or Grade One and Late French Immersion, which begins in Grade Seven students in Middle French Immersion are immersed in the French language and culture. Immersion uses an approach to teaching second languages that is referred to as integrated, content-based & communicative instruction. All subjects in Middle French Immersion will be taught in French excluding English Language Arts in grades 5 and 6. Grades 7-9 will have a minimum of 50% of their instructional day taught in French, including the four core subjects. As students already possess a foundation in language and literacy, transference of reading and writing skills to another language are usually achieved with ease.

The student who has a great interest and passion in learning French is an ideal candidate for Middle French Immersion. Students that typically succeed have a strong first language foundation, a high degree of motivation, willingness for exploration and a tolerance for ambiguity in their learning. Although there is no need for parents to have a background in French, their ongoing involvement is integral to their child's learning. Middle French Immersion is a program that welcomes all students and that endeavours to meet their learning needs.

The ultimate goal of French Immersion is functional bilingualism, which many students have already achieved through the CBE's existing Immersion program. Middle French Immersion will allow students another entry point to becoming functionally bilingual.

Please complete the "Expression of Interest" form and return it to the Area I Office no later than February 28, 2011. Fax to 403-777-8719, or mail to:

Calgary Board of Education

Area I Office

728 – 32 Street NW

Calgary, AB T2N 2V9