



April 6, 2022

Parents and Guardians,

Last week, Minister Cardy announced the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) is accepting the [recommendations of the Official Languages Commissioners report on second language learning](#).

The report reflects conversations the department has had over the past few years with learners, educators, community members, and families.

Enrolment for existing French immersion programs will happen, as usual this year, however, there will be changes to French Second Language (FSL) learning in the coming years, as the province develops an equitable model for all learners.

EECD will consult with stakeholders, including students and families. This will help our planning as we develop a model in a gradual way. Any changes will include a transition plan for existing French programs.

Please be certain that even though there will be efforts to improve FSL learning, EECD will continue to develop Wabanaki language courses to align with the Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Report.

The FSL model will address the unique needs of all anglophone sector students, including newcomers, who are learning French and/or English as an additional language.

Last year, EECD started working with some schools and early childhood centres to improve conversational French of students. The school your child attends may currently be involved, or may become involved next year. The Minister has announced an expansion of this initiative. More information can be found on the webpage for [Language Learning Opportunities](#).

Any feedback as we embark on the process for a new French-language model can be sent in care of the consultation.EECD-EDPE@gnb.ca email.

EECD takes seriously the task of providing more equal access to FSL learning because the acquisition of new language skills opens doors for our students.

We would appreciate your support with these efforts. As a province we must strive to build stronger connections, deepen respect for New Brunswick's cultures and bolster cultural diversity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Daley".

George Daley
Deputy Minister