



## *District School Board of Niagara Expanding French Immersion for 2012*

The District School Board of Niagara is pleased to now offer French Immersion beginning at the Grade 4 level across the system. In addition, as of September 2012, we will be implementing a Grade One French Immersion Pilot at 5 locations. As well as the new grade 4 entry, Grade 5 entry will continue across the Board for the 2012-2013 school year (Grade 7 entry will continue in St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake).

Information re: entry levels and the application process is on the DSBN website [www.dsb.org](http://www.dsb.org). Click on the Parent Tab, under Programs, click on French and International Languages, click on French Immersion Registration. Applications for Grades 1, 4, 5 and 7 (at select schools) will be online. Application packages will also be available at your child’s school starting January 9, 2012. Further program information will be sent home with your child in January.

“The ability to communicate in French is a valuable skill, because French is **one** of Canada’s two official languages and because it is a language used widely around the world. Research confirms that knowledge of a second language strengthens first-language skills and that the ability to speak two or more languages generally enhances reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as creative-thinking skills. Learning a second language not only strengthens students’ ability to communicate, but also develops their capacity to understand and respect other cultures. In this way, second-language learning prepares students to participate more effectively in the workplace and in the global economy, and provides them with a distinct advantage in a number of careers, both in Canada and internationally.” (pg 3 of the E.F./F.I. Curriculum Document (C.D.) 2001)

Parent Information Evenings will take place during the weeks of January 30 – February 10<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to find out more details about the French Immersion program, please attend one of the Information Evenings listed below or call your school.

Central	January 30, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Alexandra	January 30, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Parliament Oak	January 31, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Dalewood	January 31, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
McKay	January 31, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Prince Philip (Niagara Falls)	February 1, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan Park	February 1, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Gordon	February 6, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Princess Elizabeth	February 6, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Oakridge	February 6, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Briardale	February 7, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Queen Mary	February 7, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
John Marshall	February 8, 2012	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

# **Bienvenue!**