

**BUS THEM
AND
THEY WILL COME**

A Presentation to

**The Trillium Lakelands District School Board
French Immersion Review Committee
2001/02**

**By
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Trillium Lakelands Chapter**

Bus Them and They Will Come

- French Immersion program started in 1982
- Door to door bussing was introduced shortly afterwards
- Enrolment rose – by 1990 there were 4 classes of SK (Board almost capped the program)
- 1996 Express Bussing was introduced because the board introduced double bussing which meant the buses that the elementary FI students had previously travelled on were unavailable as they were tied up doing separate elementary runs.

The Board estimated that they could save \$189,000 annually by doing an Express route, which meant that they would travel main roads only and have students travel to central pick-up points. These pick-up points were up to 25 km away from the student's home and the pick-up times for elementary and high school were often a hour or more apart, which meant that a family with children in both panels could conceivably have to drive up to 100 km per day to MEET the bus.

- Enrolment dropped which led to a decline in grant revenues

A survey of parents indicated that this would happen as 56% of parents/guardians had the option of French Language Boards or Catholic.

They quietly drifted away...

Because we don't provide adequate bussing and other boards do.

While our FI enrolment dropped, our co-terminus boards' rose.

**We know that the drop is due to bussing because we have had no change in programming or policy. We have a perfect example in the elementary panel. Nothing else changed.
ONLY TRANSPORTATION.**

Word of mouth is powerful:

"French Immersion is very difficult to get to unless you don't mind driving"

Re-instatement of bussing will lead to an increase in enrolment and an increase in grant revenue.

"Bus them and they will come"

**COMPARISON
OF
ENROLMENT FIGURES AND GRANT LEVELS**

If we had maintained 1995 levels of enrolment by maintaining access to the program, we would be looking at the following grant levels:

	<u>1995</u>		<u>2000</u>
Total FSL	158, 713		109,430
Total FDN	<u>2,118,026</u>		<u>1,500,990</u>
	<u>\$2,276,739</u>	vs.	<u>\$1,610,420</u>

a difference of	\$2,276,739 (1995)
	<u>1,610,420 (2000)</u>
	666,319/year
	<u>x 6 years</u>
Lost Grant Revenue over six years	<u>\$ 3,997,914</u>

COST OF ADDING 6 BUSES PER YEAR = \$199,000 (board figures) assuming that they would not be bussed if not in French Immersion. However, since approximately 90% of the students would have to be bussed anyway to their home schools, this figure is probably high.

$$\text{\$199,000/ year} \times 6 \text{ years} = \text{\$1,194,000}$$

LOST GRANT REVENUE	\$3,997,914
LESS BUSSING COSTS	<u>- 1,194,000</u>
NET LOSS TO BOARD	\$2,803,914

CONCLUSION: Saving \$189,000/year has cost TLDSB at least \$2,803,914 in lost grant revenue over the past 6 years.

**GRANTS
RELATING TO FRENCH IMMERSION
TLDSB 2000**

Grade	# Students	Grants	Total Grants		Totals	
*JK	13	295	0			
SK-8	262	295	77,290	FSL		
	262	3580	937,960	Total FDN		
					1,015,250 Total FSL & FDN Elementary Grants	
9	32	(1)59	1888	FSL		
		(2)97	6208	FSL		
10	32	(1)59	1888	FSL		
		(2)97	6208	FSL		
11	36	(1)78	2808	FSL		
		(2)150	10,800	FSL		
12/OAC	30	(1)78	2340	FSL		
			32,140	Total FSL		
9-OAC	130	4331	563,030	Total FDN		
					595,170 Total FSL & FDN Secondary School Grants	
						1,610,420 Total FSL & FDN Grants for FI Program

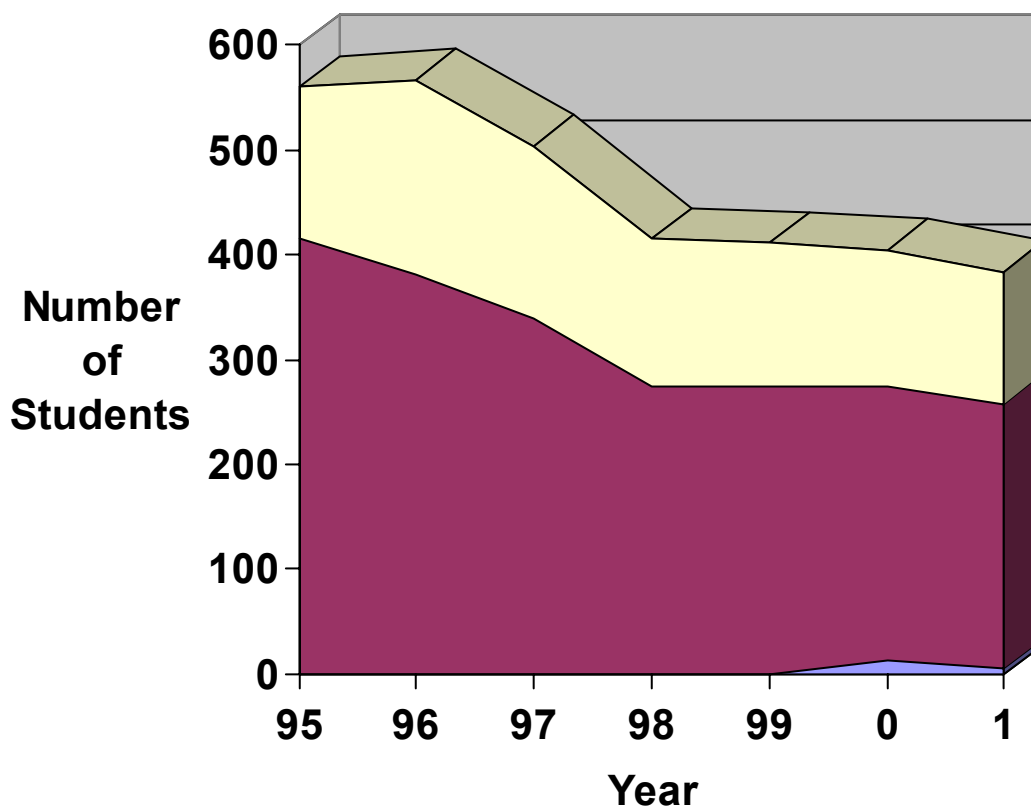
- Not included in numbers for the sake of comparison, but eligible for funding amount of \$3835 (FSL) + \$46,540 (FDN) (.5)
- SK not adjusted to .5 PTE because funding formula does not stipulate
- These figures do not include additional funding which the Board receives for transportation.

**GRANTS
RELATING TO FRENCH IMMERSION
TLDSB 1995**

Grade	# Students	Grants	Total Grants		Totals
*JK	0	295	0		
SK-8	415	295	122,425	FSL	
	415	3580	1,485,700	FDN	
					1,608,125 Total FSL & FDN for Elementary
9	56	(1)59	3304	FSL	
		(2)97	10,864	FSL	
10	40	(1)59	2,360	FSL	
		(2)97	7,760	FSL	
11	27	(1)78	2,106	FSL	
		(2)150	8,100	FSL	
12-OAC	23	(1)78	1,794	FSL	
			36,288	Total FSL	
	146	4331	632,326	Total FDN	
					668,614 Total FSL & FDN for Secondary
					2,276,739 Total FSL & FDN Grants for FI program

- There were no JK FI students at LFPS in 1995
- SK not adjusted to .5 PTE because funding formula does not stipulate
- These figures do not include additional funding which the Board receives for transportation

FI Enrolment Since Express Bussing Implemented Sept '96



■ JK ■ Elementary SK-8 ■ Secondary 9- OAC