

FRENCH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

Background

The Division supports the provision of French language programming for students, where numbers warrant.

Section 23 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms recognizes the right of francophone parents to have their children educated in French where numbers warrant. In addition to charter rights, Canada's status as a bilingual country with French as one of the two official languages needs to be recognized. The main goal of French language instruction is to develop high levels of proficiency in both official languages.

Guidelines

1. The Division will offer either the Alberta Education six-year or nine-year French as a second language program to students as part of the jurisdiction's program of studies.
2. The Division recognizes that children who qualify under Section 23 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms have the right to be educated in French in a francophone program.
3. The Division will provide the opportunity for students to participate in French immersion programs. The Division shall determine the amount of time French is used as the language of instruction as well as the preferred mode of delivery.

Reference: Section 3, 17, 19, *Education Act*
French as a Second Language and French Language Immersion policy 1.5.2
Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Section 23