



INDEPENDENT PROCEDURE

Title: **ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY NATIVE LANGUAGE STAFFING AND PROGRAM DELIVERY** Procedure No: 9041
Effective Date: 2002 June 25

Department: **PROGRAM SERVICES**

References:

- Equity and Inclusive Education Policy #2002
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Policy Framework, 2007
- Ontario Curriculum, Native Languages, Grade 1-8, 2001
- Ontario Curriculum, Native Languages, Grade 9-10, 1999
- Ontario Curriculum, Native Languages, Grade 11-12, 2000
- Ontario Curriculum, Native Languages, Grades 1-12, 2011

1.0 Overview

Thames Valley District School Board recognizes the importance of Native languages and the connection that these languages have to the preservation of First Nations cultures and contribution to students' understanding of self and sense of pride.

Native Language programs are available in identified TVDSB schools, in accordance with this independent procedure. This procedure describes a process that must be followed in order for programming to be offered in schools.

Through the study of a Native Language, students will:

- Be active and effective speakers in an ancestral language of Ontario;
- Revitalize authentic, living language communities;
- Embrace the rich, dynamic nature (elements, parts of speech, word order, root derivatives) of the language and apply language acquisition skills to other discipline areas;
- Understand the values, beliefs, history and customs expressed through and embedded within the language and culture of study;
- Recognize their role as active members of a family, extended family, community, and the world as they come to know the interconnectedness of all things through the study of a Native Language.

Ontario Curriculum, Native Languages, Grades 1-12, 2011

Administered By:	ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES
Date of Last Amendment	2007 May 22 2009 November 10 2012 December 18 2020 February 10

2.0 **Procedure for Distribution of the Native Language Staffing Complement**

2.1 In accordance with the Ministry of Education funding regulations, and through the budget process, Administrative Council will establish the total number of Native Language teachers available for distribution to elementary and secondary schools.

2.1.1 **Elementary**

Learning Support Services will annually request the projected Native Language enrollment by grade (Grades 4 through 8) for the following year.

2.1.2 **Secondary**

Learning Support Services will annually request the actual number of student registrations by course code.

2.2 Using the data submitted, Learning Support Services will establish the Native Language allocation to schools.

3.0 **Procedure for Requesting New Native Language Programs**

In accordance with Ministry of Education Policy, the Board may consider offering new Native Language programs in elementary and/or secondary schools.

3.1 **Elementary**

New elementary Native Language programs may be considered, according to the following guidelines:

- The School Administrator makes a request to the Associate Director of Learning Support Services for the establishment of a new Native Language Program;
- A survey will be provided by Learning Support Services to **all** families of students in Grades 3 through 7 to determine interest for entry into the Native Language program. The survey results must be submitted to Learning Support Services no later than December 31;
- The results of the survey will determine if any Native Language will be offered;
- A total minimum number of students, according to current Ministry guidelines, must generate enough grant to offer the program;
- Native Language will be offered at the same time as French Instruction.

3.2 **Secondary**

New secondary Native Language courses may be considered, according to the following guidelines:

- Schools must include a course description in their course calendar and promote the course to **all** students;
- A total minimum number of students, according to current Ministry guidelines, must generate enough grant to offer the program;
- Allocated staffing lines must be dedicated to Native Language courses only.

3.3 **Out-of-Area Registration - Elementary - Grades 4 to 8**

Where Native Language programs do not currently exist, parent(s)/guardian(s) may request to register their child(ren) at a school where a Native Language program is offered. Where out-of-area registration is approved, it shall be the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to provide transportation to the program.

4.0 **Staff Supervision**

The School Administrators of the schools to which Native Language teachers are assigned shall be responsible for daily supervision and Teacher Performance Appraisals for both panels.

5.0 **Hiring of Native Language Teachers**

- 5.1 Coordination of the hiring of Native Language teachers at the elementary level shall be the responsibility of Learning Support Services.
- 5.2 Coordination of the hiring of Native Language teachers at the secondary level shall be the responsibility of secondary school Administrator.
- 5.3 The hiring process should include School Administrator(s)/Superintendent, a System Principal, and will include a fluent speaker of the Native Language.
- 5.4 Where certified candidates do not exist, Learning Support Services and secondary schools shall work with Human Resources to meet the requirements of the Ministry of Education.