



December 17, 2008

Ref. # 129119

To: All Superintendents
All Secretary-Treasurers

Re: 2008/2009 Federal Funding for French Language Education and Instruction

Attached is the breakdown, by category, of your school district's total allocation of federal funding for French language instruction based on your final 2008-2009 enrolment. You will receive 70 percent of your school district's total allocation on January 15, 2009 by electronic transfer. You will find an updated version of the French Funding Guide 2008-2009 and the federal funding breakdown by category and by school district, on the following Ministry of Education web site: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/frenchprograms/>.

Under the Protocol on Official Languages in Education (2005/06 to 2008/09), funds are defined by federal contributions as "regular funds" and "additional funds". These funds continue to be targeted for French language programs (Immersion and Core French). Funds must be spent in these two program areas only.

In order to provide more flexibility, the school districts may move federal funds between the allocated funding categories. School districts will still have to report at the end of school year on second language expenditures for each category on the regular funds, the additional funds and the special grant.

Again this year, school districts may use some federal funds for teachers' salaries or a coordination position for official French second language activities at the school district level. School districts may apply federal funds to a maximum of a 0.4 FTE position at the school or district level.

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This year we experienced stabilization in the immersion growth for most school districts and a decline in growth in a few districts. Core French numbers have declined in most districts.

In order to minimize the impact on the amount of funding school districts will receive and to also distribute previous year unused funds, we have decided to adjust some of the funding categories. You will notice a small increase for the learning resources, teacher in-service and Core French grants in the regular funds and the Core French grant under the additional funds.

Any school district requiring assistance should contact Nicole Couture, Program Manager at (250) 356-2176.

Sincerely,



Britta Gundersen-Bryden
Executive Director
Measurement, Evaluation and International Languages Dept.

Attachments

pc: District French Contacts
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