

Kent Gardens ES April 2023 Community Meeting - Questions & Answers

1. Is there any other school that can offer French immersion?

The planning time to build a French language program would require 3 years of planning with implementation one grade level at a time. In total, the school-wide implementation would take 11 years at another French immersion site. When looking at a new site for a program, there are many considerations such as planning, funding, resources, short and long-term impact.

2. Will students entering / currently attending Kent Gardens be grandfathered - if there is a boundary change?

Per the Fairfax County School Board Policy 8130.7, the School Board may adopt a grade-by-grade or another phasing plan for students as appropriate to the individual boundary study.

For more information about Policy 8130:

[https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/97KJK54D54F8/\\$file/P8130.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/97KJK54D54F8/$file/P8130.pdf).

3. We are an OOB (out of boundary) French family and I am concerned that there is anti-immersion rhetoric building in the school and neighborhood. The motto You Belong Here is broadcast loudly but does that not apply to the French students?

We believe and honor the fact that all students belong to our KG family - in or out of boundary. Due to the overcrowding within our boundary, some families may have concerns around the out of boundary students. We will remain steadfast in supporting all students and families at KG - as 'We All Belong'.

4. Why is there only 20 min outside time for the children?

All students receive a minimum of 30 minutes of recess outside per the regulation. Kindergarten does receive two 15 minute breaks. Some classes also take snack breaks and learning breaks outside.

5. Why can't we just move the French Immersion program to Franklin Sherman?

One of the considerations to begin the French Immersion program at Kent Gardens was due to the under enrollment at the school at the time of starting the program. When looking at a new site for a program, there are many considerations such as planning, funding, resources, short and long-term impact.