



LINGUISTIC POLICY Revised version adopted on June 13, 2012

An initiative required of all Québec school boards, based on the MELS *Plan d'action pour l'amélioration du français à l'enseignement primaire et secondaire*

1. CONTEXT, CHALLENGES AND CHARACTERISTICS

Context

The Central Québec School Board (CQSB) is one of 9 English school boards in Québec. The School Board has jurisdiction over 17 schools and one Adult and Vocational Education centre. Eight of the nine Secondary Schools have a student population of less than 500. There are four Secondary schools; eight Elementary schools and five schools that offer instruction from Kindergarten to Secondary V. The largest Elementary school serves almost 500 students and the smallest serves less than 60 students.

Challenges

The School Board operates in a predominantly French-speaking milieu. As a result, a significant number of students come from families whose mother tongue is French but who are eligible for instruction in English. The challenge for the School Board is to ensure that students are sufficiently exposed to the English language so that they are not only comfortable with the spoken language, but that they will also have the academic skills to live in, work in and appreciate the French culture while maintaining a high standard of English.

2. SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy targets the schools, Centre and head office of the Central Québec School Board.

3. LAWS, RULES AND POLICIES

The Council of Commissioners of the Central Québec School Board approves and oversees the implementation of all School Board policies. The CQSB Linguistic Policy adheres to current laws and regulations and CQSB policies, including:

- 3.1 [Basic School Regulations \(Régime pédagogique\)](#)
- 3.2 [Charter of the French Language \(La charte de la langue française\)](#)
- 3.3 [Education Act \(Loi sur l'instruction publique\)](#)

- 3.4 [Plan d'action pour l'amélioration du français à l'enseignement primaire et secondaire](#)
- 3.5 [Québec Education Program \(Programme de formation de l'école québécoise\)](#)
- 3.6 [CQSB Cultural Policy](#)
- 3.7 [CQSB Policy on the Evaluation of Learning](#)
- 3.8 [CQSB Strategic Plan](#)
- 3.9 MELS-CQSB Partnership Agreement
- 3.10 [Policy and Procedures for Purchasing Goods and Services](#)
- 3.11 [Policy for the Organization of Educational Services for Students with Handicaps, Social Maladjustments or Learning Delays](#)
- 3.12 School and Centre Management and Educational Success Agreements
- 3.13 [Employee professional development policies](#)
- 3.14 [Recruitment, Selection and Hiring Policy](#)

4. PRINCIPLES

- 4.1 The School Board ensures that the stipulations of the Charter of the French Language and the MELS [Plan d'action pour l'amélioration du français à l'enseignement primaire et secondaire](#) are respected.
- 4.2 The Central Québec School Board (CQSB) wishes to graduate students who are bilingual, bi-literate and multi-cultural: Students, who will be able to remain in, work in and appreciate a French environment while maintaining a high standard of English.
- 4.3 The schools and Centre of the CQSB offer high-quality French and English programs to all students, with a variety of teaching approaches.
- 4.4 The CQSB Strategic Plan and the CQSB-MELS Partnership Agreement mirror the five axes of the *ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport* (MELS) action plan.
- 4.5 Every school and Centre includes French and English as priorities in its Educational Project, Success Plan and management and educational success agreements.
- 4.6 The CQSB offers regular and high-quality professional development to all employees.
- 4.7 The CQSB hires qualified personnel.

- 4.8 The CQSB celebrates the rich cultural heritage of our diverse communities and its role in our understanding and acceptance of each other.
- 4.9 The CQSB promotes empathy and respect for a multitude of cultural traditions and values.
- 4.10 The CQSB supports and encourages the schools and Centre to promote and value both French and English music, literature, culture and cultural events.
- 4.11 The CQSB ensures that administrative services to the public (both written and oral) are available in both official languages.
- 4.12 All official documents and communications issued by the head office of the CQSB are written and made available to the public in both official languages or in French only in the case of communication with the government.
- 4.13 All documentation of an administrative nature is posted on the CQSB Web site in both English and French.
- 4.14 The Web sites of the schools and Centre are maintained in both languages with the exception of documents of a pedagogical nature.
- 4.15 All of the administrative Information Technology (IT) applications are in French and may be made available in English upon request.
- 4.16 Selection procedures for the hiring of CQSB administrative personnel, especially for those who will be working with the public, contain measures to ensure the quality of French and English both written and oral.
- 4.17 The CQSB Linguistic Policy will be posted in both languages on the CQSB Web site.
- 4.18 The Administrative Council is responsible for ensuring that the CQSB Linguistic Policy is applied and will make recommendations for modifications to the Policy as necessary.

This policy comes into force on July 1, 2012.