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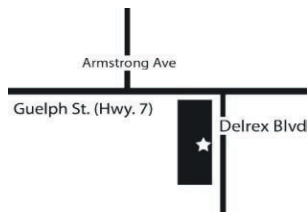
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NEWS

CATHOLIC BOARD GRAPPLES WITH A FRENCH IMMERSION EXPANSION

ROLAND CILLIERS
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The board once again has the will, but is struggling to find a way.

The Halton Catholic District School Board is facing renewed calls by parents to expand the popular French immersion program.

For well over a year now, board trustees have expressed a desire to grow the program but have been challenged with significant capacity, equity and logistical issues.

Over 40 parents have delegated to the board about the issue, many saying the inability to get into the program is pushing people into the public



Roland Cilliers/Metroland
Trustee Helena Karabela is supporting the board to look into French immersion expansion options regardless of it potentially meaning some areas would get more spaces while others would not.

school system.

Pat Daly, the director of education with the board, said a report on the program will be presented at

the upcoming meeting and then trustees will be left to decide what to do next.

"The real work is determining what the next steps are because it's not just saying let's add a couple classes here or there. It also will take into account where those classes may go and boundary reviews and all of those elements," said Daly.

The board's application window for new entrants to the French immersion program closed on Nov. 20. The number of applicants have not yet been released but the available spaces is not expected to accommodate all those interested in joining next school year.

Carrie Kelley, a mother

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TEACHERS AND EDUCATION WORKERS

are doing their part to provide students in Ontario's publicly-funded schools with a safe and quality learning environment during the pandemic. Educators are there to help maintain a sense of well-being and belonging for students during these isolating times.

THANK YOU

parents, students and communities for supporting our educators.



A MESSAGE FROM THE
ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS' FEDERATION