




September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Bienvenue au programme d'Immersion française de William Aberhart High School.

It is truly our pleasure to have you and your child on our French Immersion team. This year, William Aberhart is celebrating 35 years of French Immersion. Our program is one of the largest in Canada with over 800 students.

Our 2015-16 French immersion department consists of thirteen dedicated teachers, an assistant principal - M. Fournier, a learning strategist - Mme Belhumeur, an educational assistant - Mme Éthier, a teacher librarian - Mme Cummings, and a guidance counselor - Mme White who are all ready to help you achieve your goals. Our philosophy is one where we believe that language learners must include their second/third language in their daily lives. At ABE, we expect students to speak French at all times during their French Immersion courses. Our FI program has grown to be an authentic cultural journey that encourages everyone to speak French outside the classroom setting.

Our department likes rewarding monthly; one student per FI course with a French Immersion Superstar★ certificate. Through our French club, *Immersion en action* and our *Passeport Francophile*, we encourage students to build on their culture experience. In addition, we organize field trips, invite guest speakers to inform our students about potential exchanges, provide bursaries and university program information and offer Friday movies etc. We believe that any school based or personal French activities are valuable to our students. Every student in our FI program receives a *Passeport* at the beginning of grade 10. When the *Passeport* gets full, we will gladly give students a new one at no additional cost. Otherwise the replacement cost is \$2. Throughout the year, students are encouraged to collect stamps by participating in French activities or simply by creating their own opportunities. Each French Immersion department member (FLA / Etudes Sociales / Math / Admin / Learning Resources Center / Completion Center etc.) utilizes the *Passeport* with different objectives. In June, the FI department will host a draw filled with prizes from local French businesses, including a lunch for two at *La Chaumière* restaurant and a \$50 GC for *Bistro Rouge*.  Our sponsors are displayed at the back of the *Passeport*.

We recommend that students have access to a French/English dictionary, a French synonym dictionary and a *Bescherelle*, and *Avec Brio* are allowed for the diploma exams of FLA and Études Sociales. They are all important for your next three years in French Immersion. We also recommend buying the App - Antidote mobile (for less than \$20). This App offers all of the above learning tools and more. *Nos langues* App can be download for free via <https://www.noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca/index-fra.php>

In addition, our program offers many language enrichment opportunities. During grade 11 & 12, we also offer the French Advanced Placement course outside of the school schedule. We also offer free tutorials to any student wanting to acquire an International accreditation by taking the DELF B2 (Diplôme d'Étude de Langue en Français) exam offered in the fall and spring. There are many summer programs, which encourage students to travel and enhance their second language skills through authentic experiences. The CBE Global Learning offers an International certificate for ALL high school students. We are also pleased to announce for a third year in a row, an exchange program with Maurick College, Vught, Netherlands & Paris, France. Together we will be working to create an authentic language and cultural experience for FI students. Please send me an email if you are interested in participating in the 2015-16 Netherlands & France project: [nrdunn@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:nrdunn@cbe.ab.ca)

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns. We look forward to meeting you at the French Immersion presentation (7:20 – 7:50pm) in the main gym at our upcoming “Meet the Teacher evening” on September 24th.

Information and updated information will continually be posted on our website:

<http://schools.cbe.ab.ca/b829/aberhart/universal/pdf/web/viewer.html?file=/b829/aberhart/departments/french/immersion.pdf>

Please take a minute to look at our last June's newsletter to learn more about our French Immersion celebrations.

<http://schools.cbe.ab.ca/b829/aberhart/universal/pdf/web/viewer.html?file=/b829/aberhart/programs/french-immersion/newsletter.pdf>

Au plaisir de vous rencontrer,

*Nathalie Dunn*

Learning Leader, French Immersion

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