



CPF *Canadian Parents for French*

Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 1 - Winter 2005

CPF Hamilton-Wentworth



School Board News

Catholic District School Board to Hire FSL Support Person:

In June 2004, CPF Hamilton-Wentworth made a presentation to the Board asking that greater attention be paid to attrition rates and promotion of the French Immersion Program. We have recently had a formal Board response to our delegation and as of January 2005, the Separate Board will be hiring a half-time French Special Assignment Teacher. This staff person will work with French teachers and act as a liaison with parent groups such as CPF. We are pleased to learn that our lobbying efforts have been successful and look forward to working with Board to strengthen the Core French and French Immersion programs.

Public School Board Transportation Review:

The Public School Board will be reviewing its transportation policy over the next few months. In *(continued on page 3)*

Étienne *World Tour 2005*

CPF Hamilton-Wentworth is pleased to be bringing Étienne to Hamilton again this February. Last year we saw hundreds of students up singing, dancing and having fun. Étienne energizes students into seeing how exciting learning French can be! Don't miss Étienne's upcoming concerts!

The concerts are geared for grades three to eight. Tickets are \$5.50 each.

To order contact Educorock Productions Inc.
 Phone: 519-978-9899
 Fax: 519-978-0097
 E-mail: info@educorock.com
 Web: www.educorock.com

February 23, 2005 at Mohawk College Theatre 1 - 2 p.m.

February 24, 2005 at Bishop Ryan High School 10 - 11 a.m.

February 24, 2005 at Bishop Ryan High School 1 - 2 p.m.



Top 10 Reasons to Take Part in CPF's SEVEC Exchange This Summer

1. New Friends: SEVEC participants will spend four weeks in July hanging out and having fun with 46 Hamilton kids and 46 kids from Quebec – ages 11 to 14.

2. Awesome Activities: Every day is a new adventure – Canada's Wonderland, Niagara Falls, Quebec City, sports, BBQ's, white water rafting, talent shows –all included in the cost of the program.

3. Dynamic Duos: Each student from Hamilton will be carefully matched with a Quebec student with similar interests. Twins will be introduced in the spring, so they can start text messaging early. Twins stay with each other's families during the program and can form life-long friendships.

4. Living in French: SEVEC participants will spend two weeks immersed in the French language while in Quebec. Days of shopping, chatting, preparing dinner and playing in French will improve their conversational skills and bring home the reality of French as a living language, not just a subject at school.

5. Reasonable Cost: The four week program costs \$875. This works out to approximately \$220 per week – a price similar to many residential summer camps –and includes all day trip activities and the cost of transportation to Quebec.



6. Safe & Supervised: Participants are carefully supervised during the day by bilingual employees of the SEVEC program and in the evenings by their twin's family. Accident insurance is included in the program cost.

7. Culture Shock: Students become aware of the distinct differences in lifestyle and history between Quebec and Ontario and learn to appreciate and accept differences more easily.

8. Personal Growth: In leaving behind their familiar environment and setting out to experience a new culture and surroundings, students will develop understanding, patience and the ability to adapt.

9. Once in a Lifetime: CPF is offering the SEVEC program for the first time in Hamilton. Due to the logistical effort involved, this opportunity is not likely to be repeated for several years. Don't miss out in 2005 – next year will be too late.

10. Membership Matters: In addition to coordinating the SEVEC exchange, CPF Hamilton-Wentworth is applying for grants and sponsorships to reduce the cost of the SEVEC exchange for its members.

Space is still available. For more information please call Deborah Doody at 905-575-9687.



School Board News (continued)

response to a formal request by CPF, bussing for French Immersion students has been included as a specific issue in the review. The Policy Working Sub-Committee reviewing the policy meets twice a month and all meetings are open to the public.

If the issue of providing bussing for French Immersion is important to you, please contact your school trustee to tell them why. The Board would also welcome creative suggestions for providing FI transportation within their existing funding model. You can send letters or e-mails to your trustee, or to the Sub-Committee. CPF will continue to monitor the review and keep you informed of its progress.



High School Information Nights

Hamilton, at present, has one French Immersion High School within each Board; Westdale (Public) located in the west end and Cathedral (Catholic) located in Hamilton downtown. Both schools offer a wide variety of French Immersion courses.



Both Cathedral and Westdale are extending a special invitation to middle school French Immersion students and their parents to come and visit their French departments this month. The schools will have displays and information about their high school Immersion programs, as well as an opportunity to meet the staff and view the facilities.

**Cathedral - 7 p.m.
Wednesday, January 19**

**Westdale - 7 p.m.
Thursday, January 20**

For more information about the French Immersion program at **Westdale** call: 905-522-1387 or visit their web site at: w3.hwdsb.on.ca/westdale

For more information about the French Immersion program at **Cathedral** call: 905 522-3581 or visit their web site at: www.hwcdsb.edu.on.ca/cathedral/cathedral.html

Kindergarten Information Nights

If you know a family with children about to start Kindergarten or Grade One, be sure to tell them about the free French Immersion program offered at your child's school. Both

school boards offer information nights to find out more about the schools and the French Immersion program. This year's dates are as follows:

Public Schools 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 27
A.M. Cunningham
100 Wexford Ave. S. 905-544-7771

Thursday, February 3
Earl Kitchener
300 Dundurn St. S. 905-528-0223

Tuesday, February 8
Glen Echo
140 Glen Echo Dr. 905-560-6630

Thursday, February 10
Norwood Park
165 Terrace Drive 905-575-9808

Thursday, February 17
George R. Allan
900 King St. W. 905-522-0601

Separate Schools 7 to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, February 15
St. Eugene
120 Parkdale Ave. S. 905-545-9598

Wednesday, February 16
St. Joseph
270 Locke St. S. 905-529-1002

Thursday, February 17
Sts. Peter & Paul
49 Fennell Avenue 905-383-4911

Basic French Course for Parents – February 2005

Starting the third week of February, CPF will be offering both Level One and Level Two French Courses for parents. The Level One course is aimed at people with little or no prior french experience and is intended to give parents some basic french vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation so as to encourage their children's use of French at home. Each lesson has a major focus (e.g. numbers) with the teacher explaining and pronouncing the words followed by group and individual repetition. The Level Two course builds directly on vocabulary and concepts learned in Level One.

The cost of the ten week course is \$75 for CPF members and \$100 for non-members (the non-member fee also includes a one-year CPF membership). The basic fee covers the cost of hiring the instructors, renting the classrooms and photocopying the course material. The course fee is non-refundable once class begins and registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Session Two: Monday Nights 7 to 9 p.m.
Norwood Park School 165 Terrace Drive (Mountain)
Starting February 21, 2005 (Instructor: Betty Dunfield)

Session One: Tuesday Nights 7 to 9 p.m.
George R. Allen School 900 King St. W. (Westdale)
Starting February 22, 2005 (Instructor: Annette Ray)

To register, please complete the application form below and submit it to CPF Hamilton-Wentworth along with your full fee. We are accepting a maximum of 25 students for each session. Your cheque should be made out to "Canadian Parents for French Hamilton- Wentworth". We cannot accept post-dated cheques. We will phone you to confirm your registration.

Registration Form

Name: _____

Full Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Level One Session Level Two Session

Please register me for the CPF Hamilton-Wentworth Basic French Course . I enclose the application fee of \$75 for CPF members or \$100 for non-members, which I understand is non-refundable once class begins.

Signature _____

CPF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

(TO BE COMPLETED IF YOU ARE NOT CURRENTLY A MEMBER)

Member's Surname	Given Name
Address	Postal Code
Home Phone	Business Phone
FAX	E-mail
School Board	Child's School

Mail your registration form to: 55 Athens Street, Hamilton, ON L9C 3K8 For more information call 905-318-1646