

Dear Student(s), Parent(s)/Guardian(s);

In February 2013, the Ontario Ministry of Education released *A Framework for French as a Second Language, K – 12*. This framework articulates three provincial goals for FSL, the first of which is to increase student confidence, proficiency and achievement in FSL. This goal reminds us how important it is that students have confidence in their ability to use their French skills effectively.

In recent years, provincial initiatives have taken place using the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment (CEFR)* to inform practice in FSL. The CEFR provides a comprehensive overview of competencies that French language learners need to develop in order to communicate and interact effectively. It presents levels of language proficiency, starting at the basic level A1, continuing to A2, B1, and B2 (which is considered independent). Levels C1 and C2 reflect a competency level beyond secondary school.

This spring, approximately 1000 volunteer Grade 12 FSL students from 37 English-language school boards across Ontario will participate in the *FSL Student Proficiency DELF Pilot Project* and write an internationally-recognized language exam called the *Diplôme d'études en langue française* (DELF). This exam is based on the CEFR proficiency levels. Your child has been invited to participate.

The project is outside the required component of the regular French as a Second Language program. Therefore, DELF exam results may not be included in determining report card grades as the DELF exam is an assessment of proficiency from an external lens. Upon successful completion of the exam, students will receive a DELF certificate awarded by the French Ministry of National Education (France).

The DELF exam is administered in two steps:

Step One: According to the exam schedule, students within same DELF levels complete the oral comprehension, written comprehension, and written production components. Exam schedule:

May 7, 2018 from 12:00pm to 2:30pm (DELF level B2)
May 8, 2018 from 12:00pm to 1:45pm (DELF level B1)
May 9, 2018 from 12:00pm to 1:40pm (DELF level A2)
May 10, 2018 from 12:00pm to 1:20pm (DELF level A1)

Step Two: Students individually complete oral production and interaction exams as scheduled (between May 8 and May 18). All participants will receive details,

including the exact date, time and location of their oral exam, via the contact information provided on the consent form.

Please note that individual student results will not be reported back to the school. All information and materials collected will be kept confidential. Successful students will receive a diploma which will include their results and level of proficiency.

Please discuss this opportunity with your child and if they wish to participate, you must complete the enclosed consent form and return it to your child's French teacher in a sealed envelope no later than **March 1, 2018**.

For more information please see http://delf-dalf.ambafrance-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/depliant-parents-8_anglais_special_canada_web.pdf

Students will be randomly selected from the online consent forms that are received. Please visit nearnorthschools.ca to complete the consent form. If you do not have access to the internet, please speak to your child's teacher to request a paper copy. Confirmation of participation will be sent to you at the phone number or e-mail address you provide.

There will be a \$50 charge for participating students. Please make cheque payable to the Near North District School Board and send it to your child's school to forward onto the board office. If you require financial assistance or additional information, please see your classroom teacher.

Thank you for considering participation in the DELF.

Sincerely,



Greg Deschamps
Project Lead



CONSENT FORM

The information collected for this project is confidential and protected under section 29(2) of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Please Print and Complete Required Information

___ I **GIVE** permission for my child to participate in the *FSL Student Proficiency DELF Pilot Project*.

___ (if over 18) I am willing to participate in the *FSL Student Proficiency DELF Pilot Project*.

Child's Full Name: _____

(Print exactly as you would like it to appear on the DELF certificate)

Male ___ Female ___

Birthdate: ___/___/___ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Birth City: _____

Birth Country: _____

Nationality: _____

Maternal Language: _____

Exam Level (student to consult with FSL teacher and select one):

___ A1

___ A2

___ B1

___ B2

___ I **DO NOT GIVE** permission for my child to participate in the *FSL Student Proficiency DELF Pilot Project*.

Name of Student (*please print*)

Signature of Student

Date

Name of secondary school /

Current or most recent Grade 12 FSL course
(i.e., Core, Immersion, Extended)

Name of FSL teacher

Name of Parent/Guardian (*please print*)

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

(*Required if child is under 18 years of age*)

Telephone number: _____ (and/or) Email address: _____