

## FAQ – New German Language and Culture Programming

Q: What will the new German Language and culture program look like? How will it work?

A: EIPS is bringing in an external consultant to work with parents, teachers and administrators to ensure the Division is able to develop a robust program that will foster an appreciation of the German language and culture. At this point in time, we don't have information about schedules and format of the classes.

Q: How much of the new program will include German language content?

A: The Division is committed to providing at least 160 minutes per week, similar to what is in place now at Mills Haven Elementary.

Q: How do I register for the new program?

A: If you're a returning student, you can register for the program during the Returning Student Registration 2018-19 process, taking place from February 1-28. Simply, fill out the Returning Student Registration Form, available through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and select the German Language and culture program at Mills Haven Elementary.

If you are a new student to EIPS, you can register anytime on, or after, February 1. Simply, complete the [New Student Registration Form](#) and select the German Language and Culture Program at Mills Haven Elementary.

*NOTE:* Students who reside outside the Mills Haven Elementary attendance boundary and who require transportation are subject to the applicable [Student Transportation fees](#).

Q: If my child was previously in the German Bilingual Program and I register my child at their designated school instead, will I be able to change my mind and return to Mills Haven Elementary if I feel the new program is a good fit?

A: Yes. If once the program is presented you decide you want your child to return to Mills Haven Elementary, EIPS will help make that happen. Non-designated students who require transportation are subject to the applicable Student Transportation fees.

Q: If I register my child in the German Language and Culture Program at Mills Haven Elementary but decide after learning more about it that it's not a good fit, can my child attend their designated school instead?

A: Yes. If once the program is presented you decide it's not the right path for your child, you can choose to return to your designated school. Students who live within 2.4 kilometres from their designated school and require transportation are subject to a Payride fee.

Q: Can my child choose to attend another bilingual program instead—for example, French Immersion?

A: If your child is at either the kindergarten or Grade 1 level, a transition to French immersion will likely work. It's extremely difficult for students in grades 2 through 6 to do so unless there is knowledge of the French Language beforehand. For discuss your child's specific situation, contact École Campbelltown at 780-467-5143.

Q: Will there be a minimum number of students required for each grade level, including kindergarten, to ensure the new program is offered, and is continued to be offered into the future?

A: Like any specialized program, the class is offered only if there's a demand within the school community. So long as student funding can support the staffing and resource costs, EIPS will continue to offer the program to each grade. We'll have a better sense of the structure of the program once families have indicated their interest through the registration process.

Q: How will you promote the consultation to the broader community?

A: Apart from direct outreach via School Messenger to families with children enrolled in the current German Bilingual Program, the school will also contact families who both attended the recent open house and requested a school tour. In addition, a public service announcement will be sent to media outlets in and around Sherwood Park, and the event will be promoted on both school and division social media channels. Content will also be added to the EIPS and Mills Haven Elementary websites as the process moves forward so those interested in the program can find it easily.

Q: Will students in the program still be able to write the SprachDiplom?

A: The school will continue to offer 160 minutes of German instruction per week and be similar to other second Language programs. Students enrolled in the German Language and Culture Program can still take the SprachDiplom exams and receive accreditation for German Language Proficiency