## **NEWS RELEASE**



## BOARD ACTIONS ON LAKE COUNTRY FRENCH IMMERSION AND KSS CAPACITY

December 10, 2020

KELOWNA, BC – At the December 9, 2020 Public Board Meeting, the Board of Education approved a French Immersion program at H.S. Grenda Middle School, which will open next school year for Grades 6 to 7, and add a Grade 8 program the following year.

The Board of Education also reviewed the recommendations from the Planning and Facilities committee on the plan to support the immediate capacity issues at École Kelowna Secondary School. Currently, the following actions are being recommended considering the school currently being at full capacity and an additional 250-300 students expected over the next three years:

- Catchments will be evaluated upon entry to École Kelowna Secondary School, with available spaces prioritized for catchment area students per Board Policy. Grade 9 students currently at École KLO Middle School and École Dr. Knox Middle School will not be exempt from this evaluation of catchments and may be required to attend their catchment secondary school.
- International students to be restricted to a maximum amount determined by the Board of Education.
- A Grade 10-12 French Immersion program to be established at Okanagan Mission Secondary School starting in the 2021/22 school year. The first Grade 10 cohort will be the Grade 9 students that currently attend École KLO Middle School and live in the English catchment for Okanagan Mission Secondary School.

The Board of Education has requested additional information and will be making a final decision at the January 13, 2021 Public Meeting.

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For comments, please contact: Moyra Baxter, Board Chairperson, 250-767-6153 Ryan Stierman, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO, 250-470-3224