



145,000 Students



One picture of the future

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2005

How do we picture the future?

What is the story of public education in Peel in 2005? How can we sum up the year in a few words and pictures?



Well, this year, the Peel District School Board endeavoured to tell the story of our organization—now and into the future—in a single image. We launched a new visual identity for our board. In a single glance, it “says” a lot about our board and our schools. It powerfully portrays our commitment to helping all students achieve.

In 2005, the Peel board changed its logo for the first time in the 36 years since the organization was first formed in 1969. Our logo—our public signature—must create a visual impression about who we are and what we stand for. Perception has a powerful influence over our success—as schools and as an organization. It’s vital to helping us “tell our story” to parents, students, the public—and to each other.

We launched the new logo after nearly two years of research and consultation with trustees, unions, federations and employee groups, elementary and secondary principals and vice-principals, students, school council chairs and members, school staff, education centre staff, representatives of diverse communities, and representatives of community agencies. The new logo reflects what all these people told us about who we are and where we’re going.

HELPING ALL STUDENTS ACHIEVE

In the blink of an eye, people will form an opinion about our school board based on seeing our new logo. What essential message do we want to convey? Well, to us, nothing is more important than helping all students achieve. It's important to note that our symbol of success is a smile, not an A+. Nothing is more universal to visually demonstrate students achieving to their full potential than the universal symbol of happiness—a smile.

diverse

The new logo is a symbol of a face – smiling and happy. This image leads you into, and is linked to, the word “Peel.” A smile is a positive symbol in all cultures, and the image is instantly inclusive and welcoming. This smiling face is inclusive—it can be boy or girl, a person of any age, a person of differing ability, from any race or background.

New programs bring 'Faith Forward'

Understanding and embracing the wide diversity of faiths and cultures represented by Peel board students and staff is the vision of a new series of programs and resources entitled Faith Forward. The program includes the following:

- Holy Days and Holidays calendar with important dates in 19 world religions throughout the school year
- monthly Celebrating Faith and Culture background-er with background information about each religious and cultural celebration observed in the Peel community and throughout the world
- Reflections on World Religions guide to provide teachers and students with background information about the origins, scriptures and main beliefs of all major world religions
- consultation with the faith communities in Peel to create stronger partnerships
- training programs to help create sensitivity and awareness of the varying needs of students and staff from all faith backgrounds

For more information about Faith Forward, contact the Community Liaison Coordinator at 905-890-1010 (or 1-800-668-1146) ext. 2573.



Peel board welcomes new families in 26 languages

When newcomer families who don't speak English register their children for school in our board, it's now easier for them to get the information they need, thanks to a new award-winning "Welcome to School" kit developed by the Peel board. This kit contains basic school information in 26 languages that reflect the diversity within the Peel community.

A welcoming environment is crucial from the moment a new family arrives in Peel. Basic information, such as what supplies children need for school, is especially helpful if parents are able to read it in their first language.

The kit helps schools' efforts to make the transition to a new home and school a smooth one for the family. The sooner new students begin to adjust and feel at ease in school, the faster they can progress academically.

For more information, call Communications at 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146), ext. 2817.



Facts at a glance

Total number of schools:	221
elementary:	189
secondary:	32
Total number of students:	145,000
elementary:	103,000
secondary:	42,000
Total number of staff:	12,000
academic:	8,700
business and support:	3,300
Students in french programs:	67,000
Students served through special education:	15,500
Students in english as second language programs:	26,000
Student travelling to school by bus:	38,000
Number of portables:	624
Permits for community use of school facilities:	5,000



Peel schools reach out to children in need around the globe

Our people see the Peel board as a progressive organization—that's what they told us. Part of our progressive approach to public education is to teach our students to be global citizens. Here are some of the ways we reached out this year:

- In collaboration with the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, we brought in \$1.1 million for the Terry Fox Foundation in a single-day event to support cancer research.
- The Peel board's Helping Hands drive raised a half-million dollars for tsunami relief in January 2005. Weeks before, we completed a campaign that donated \$11,600 to aid hurricane victims in the Caribbean.
- We sent messages of hope and \$17,000 in relief funding to Hurricane Katrina victims in October 2005, and \$54,000 to victims of the South Asian earthquake in the same month.

This outreach to children and families in need around the globe is nothing new for the Peel board. Previously, Peel students and staff have donated many tens of thousands of dollars to victims of the 2002 earthquake in India, the September 11 attacks, Manitoba flood and Quebec ice storm—just to mention a few.

It's easy to get information

You can get copies of any of our information materials in the following ways:

- > Your child's school has copies of most information materials
- > Visit our website at www.peelschools.org
- > Call Communications at 905.890.1099 or 1.800.668.1146 ext.2809



Peel board named top employer for recent grads

Our progressive approach applies just as much to our staff as to students. This year, Peel board was named one of Canada's best employers for new university and college grads. We hire about 1,500 new teachers each year. One-third of them are new graduates.

Teachers interested in working for the Peel board can search and apply for jobs directly on the board's website, using VIP—Virtually in Peel—a free online application centre.

The board has also taken innovative approaches to recruiting the 2,000 non-teaching staff it hires annually. In May 2005, more than 1,500 job seekers attended the board's annual recruitment fair for non-teaching staff. The board has also extended the VIP online application service to include all teaching assistants and secretarial/clerical positions.

For more information about VIP or how to apply for a job with the Peel board—or to subscribe to job postings—visit www.peelschools.org and go to “Work in Peel.”

Board's bold building plan prepares to meet needs of growing community

Each year, the Peel board grows by more than 5,000 students. To meet the needs of current and future growth, the board has a bold, ambitious plan of building new schools and permanent additions onto existing schools.

The 2005-06 school year started with a flourish as Canadian jazz legend Oscar Peterson opened the elementary school named for him. Another famous Canadian, Roberta Bondar, lent her name to a new elementary school that opened on Aug. 2 with an alternative balanced calendar program. Six other new schools also opened for students this year: Cheyne Middle, Mississauga Secondary, Mount Royal Public, Red Willow Public, Rowntree Public and Stanley Mills Public schools.

The six new schools have added 8,200 more student places for 2005-06. Over the next five years, the Peel board's capital plan forecasts the need to build 26 new schools, to keep pace with enrolment growth.

Construction is already underway for seven new schools to open in 2006-07. One of those schools will be named Stephen Lewis Secondary School, in honour of the Canadian humanitarian.

For more information, contact Planning and Accommodation, 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146) ext. 2212 or visit www.peelschools.org.

Curriculum available

Every Peel school has a complete set of all curriculum in its library for parents and community members. All Peel curriculum is also available at the education centre. Call the library at 905.890.1099 or 1.800.668.1146 ext. 2601 for hours.



Board's bold building plan prepares to meet needs of growing community

When students returned to school after the summer of 2005, awaiting them were modernized computer and science labs, sturdy new roofs and other updated facilities. The Peel board spent more than \$43 million this year to improve older schools.

With \$3 billion in real estate assets and more than 13 million square feet of space in 221 schools, the board needed to find an innovative solution to manage the renewal needs of our schools. As part of the plan, board staff has inspected all 165 schools that are 20 years and older, on a priority basis.

The final projects will be completed by 2007. This plan to renew outdated learning space is only part of the board's renewal and maintenance program. In addition to the \$100 million renewal plan, the board continues with routine repairs, health and safety improvements and modifications to schools to meet the requirements of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

For more information, go to the Spotlight section of www.peelschools.org or call 905-890-1010 (or 1-800-668-1146), ext. 2212.

Peel board honours 'stellar' students

In June 2005, we held the first Stellar awards to honour more than 2,000 students who had received individual or group awards in academic, arts or athletic competitions during the 2004-05 school year. The board celebrated the achievements of students who received recognition at the provincial, national or international level.

Long-serving volunteers receive special recognition

In 2005, we honoured more than 100 volunteers who have dedicated 10 years or more of their time to Peel students.

'Showcase' honours excellence at Peel board

As part of the board's annual Education Week celebrations, the board honoured 33 individuals with Awards of Excellence for their exemplary contributions to public education in Peel. Recipients included teachers, custodians, secretaries, teaching assistants, administrators, students, parents, volunteers and community members.

The board also recognized Mike Walmsley, a school principal, with an Education Champion Award for his significant and lasting contribution to public education beyond Peel's borders.

During Education Week, virtually all Peel schools hold events and activities to showcase the best public education has to offer.

Looking for a student volunteer?

All high school students must complete 40 hours of volunteer service in the community. To post a volunteer job on the Peel board website, go to “Student Stuff” at www.peelschools.org and click on the “Your Time Counts” icon.



\$1 billion budget is an investment in our students' future 2005-06 budget includes \$8.3 million transportation risk

The Peel board budget is an investment in the future of our students. For 2005-06, the \$1.06 billion budget, a 6.2 per cent increase over last year, is focused on meeting the wide-range learning needs of more than 145,000 students in our growing communities.

Despite the increase in funding of \$60 million, our actual transportation costs are \$8.3 more than the government funding covers—a shortfall of about \$2,000 for each special education student who rides the bus.

Education grants leave shortfalls in other key areas. The funding announcement raises certain concerns for the Peel board:

- There is no provision for the projected \$8.3 million funding shortfall in student transportation.
- The government has only provided \$40 million in its provincial budget for new special education claims that have occurred over the last two years. This will not be sufficient to cover the cost of new claims across the province.
- There is no transitional funding for the Peel board for the planning time gap. In 2004/05, the Peel board provided 140 minutes of planning time per week for elementary teachers, and this has increased to 160 minutes in 2005-06. The starting point for the funding adjustment in 2005-06 is 152 minutes.
- The ministry has not taken any steps to address the historic funding gap for salaries. In the Peel board, the salary gap is \$40 million in 2005-06.

For complete financial statements, go to “Get the Facts” on the Peel board website, www.peelschools.org, or call 905-890-1010 (or 1-800-668-1146) ext. 2012.

What you see on this page is **more than a logo**. It's the new signature of the Peel District School Board – and it declares, for all to see, our passionate commitment to help all students achieve.



Typography: Peel

The emphasis is placed on the word Peel. It is set in 'Gotham' – a bold, easy-to-read, sans serif font. This typeface is reminiscent of the letters of the alphabet we saw around our classrooms during our first years in school, as we were learning how to print and read. So this font reminds us of the early learning experiences we all share. The word Peel is set in lowercase letters, which are friendlier, more youthful and fun in tone.

peel District
School Board



Typography: District School Board

The words District School Board are set in a more traditional, serif font called 'Century Schoolbook.' Generations of school children learned to read with this font in books such as "Dick and Jane." But this font also reflects the timeless quality of our organization. The font is more corporate, adds authority and is highly legible.

Symbol: the face

The heritage and tradition of the letter "P", which was key to the previous identity, is now incorporated into the symbol of a face – smiling and happy. This image leads you into, and is linked to, the word Peel. A smile is a positive symbol in all cultures, and the image is instantly inclusive and welcoming. The use in the logo reflects the way we want Peel students and staff to feel – joyful and successful.

Flexibility

The new visual identity will usually be used in its entirety (as shown here). However, the "smiling face" can be separated from the typography and be used on its own. Used this way, it is a simple, highly recognizable and memorable identity that allows for playful application.

Colour

The colour of the new visual identity is blue, a colour historically associated with the Peel District School Board. The new blue is clean, fresh, vibrant, and is easily reproduced across a variety of media – from print to web.

Celebrations honour achievements of students, staff and volunteers

We take the job of teaching and learning seriously, but we know it's important to make time for the events that bring us together in celebration and festivity.



Award-winning learning events give young people the lead

Each year, the Peel board hosts award-winning learning events that let students take the lead in dealing with key real-world issues.

The board's annual Model UN gives secondary school students the chance to learn first-hand the difficulties associated with international diplomacy. In 2005, students representing 24 UN member states heard from Lloyd Axworthy, former minister of foreign affairs. This 10th annual Model UN focused on war-affected children, proposing the establishment of a special International Criminal Court tribunal to prosecute war crimes against children.

The Peel board receives support from the Canadian International Development Agency for innovative global education programs. In 2004-05, Leaders in Action for Education explored the impact of war on children and education. The year-long program kicked off with a conference for students and teachers, featured keynote speaker Romeo Dallaire and culminated with Peel secondary school students raising \$25,000 and funding the construction of a school in Kono, Sierra Leone.

For 2005-06, the annual CIDA-supported program is entitled Global Groundwork: youth creating foundations for the future. The program will feature leadership opportunities for middle and secondary students.

More than 250 students attended the seventh annual Learning about AIDS conference in October, to learn how to take a leadership role in creating awareness events at their schools.

For more information about youth leadership events in the Peel board, go to Student Stuff at peelschools.org or call 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146), ext. 2098.

Peel students learn compassion from Roots of Empathy program

Roots of Empathy teaches students from the ages of three to 14 in 24 Peel board schools about compassion and good citizenship through interaction with infants. In this program, a baby and parent visit a classroom once a month throughout the school year. A certified instructor coaches the children in observing the baby's development and encourages them to hold and play with the baby.

During classroom visits, instructors take photographs of the baby's progress and of students interacting with the baby. These photographs are posted on a bulletin board so students can reflect on the visits and view themselves with the baby.

For more information about the Roots of Empathy, contact 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146).

Peel board helps parents prepare their children for school

The Peel District School Board has opened four early years hubs and 10 readiness centres to help parents and their children make a smooth transition to kindergarten.

The Peel early years hubs and readiness centres are drop-in facilities for children from birth to four years of age who are accompanied by their caregivers, such as a parent, grandparent or primary caregiver. Families learn basic skills that will prepare children for entering kindergarten. Parents and caregivers must accompany their children so they can learn together in a welcoming, stimulating environment.

A list of all hubs and centres are on the Peel website at www.peelschools.org



Peel students perform well on provincial, national tests



Each year, the provincial Education Quality and Accountability Office conducts tests of students in grades 3, 6, 9 and 10. Peel students consistently score at or above the provincial average on all test areas. For the tests in grades 3, 6 and 9, EQAO rates student performance on a four-level scale, the same scale used in the Ontario curriculum. Level 1 is below standard and level 4 is above standard.

The Peel board also conducts an annual standardized testing program. All grade 4 students are tested on the Canadian Achievement Test. This test measures students' basic skills in reading, spelling and math, and provides a picture of how Peel students compare to others across Canada. For the past five years, Peel students have consistently performed at or above the national average on all parts of the test.

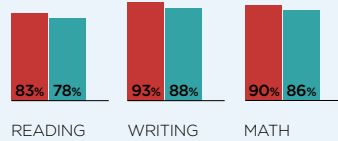
The Peel board website has extensive information about provincial test results—including results for each school. Go to www.peelschools.org and click on "EQAO Test Results." For the complete results of the standardized testing program, call the Assessment and Accountability department, 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146) ext. 2610.



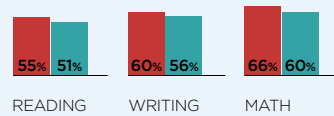
Overall, this is how grade 3 students have performed over the last three years:

PEEL PROVINCE

LEVELS 2, 3, 4



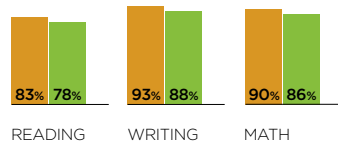
LEVELS 3, 4



Overall, this is how grade 6 students performed over the last three years:

PEEL PROVINCE

LEVELS 2, 3, 4



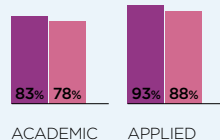
LEVELS 3, 4



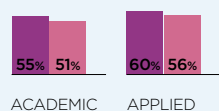
Overall, this is how students performed over the last three years of the grade 9 math test:

PEEL PROVINCE

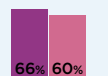
LEVELS 2, 3, 4



LEVELS 3, 4



This three-year average shows the percentage of first-time eligible students who passed the secondary school literacy test:





Mentors help children succeed in school

In just one hour a week, a mentor can make a real and lasting difference for a child, through the in-school mentoring program. This partnership between the Peel board and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Peel matches an adult with an elementary school child who would benefit from the encouragement and assistance of a one-to-one relationship with a caring adult.

More than 100 mentors meet with children in 47 Peel schools. The program receives top ratings from the children and their mentors, as well as teachers and parents. The Peel board has initiated a project to give administrative staff time during work to volunteer as an in-school mentor.

For more information about the program or about how to become a mentor, call 905-457-7288.

Creative learning choices offer students a variety of options

The Peel board's Creative Learning Choices programs expand the variety of learning options within the public school system. They are designed to meet the diverse learning needs of all students. The following choice programs are **open to all students** in Peel:

- **ARTS PROGRAMS** for middle school students at Earnsccliffe Sr. Public School, 905-793-2903, and Queen Elizabeth Senior Public School, 905-278-7287. For high school students at Cawthra Park Secondary School, 905-274-1271, and Mayfield Secondary School, 905-846-6060
- **"BALANCED CALENDAR"** school with shorter, more frequent breaks, rather than a two-month summer vacation, Roberta Bondar Public School, 905-457-1799
- **CARING FOR THE FUTURE**, career education for students interested in health care, 905-451-2860
- **EXTENDED FRENCH**, open to all students starting grade 7, 905-890-1010, ext. 2212 for the nearest school
- **FRENCH IMMERSION**, open to all children starting grade 1, 905-890-1010, ext. 2212 for the nearest school
- **CONSTRUCTION CO-OP PROGRAM**, 905-858-3087 or 905-791-6770
- **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE** for middle school students at William G. Davis Sr. Public School, 905-459-3661, and for high school students at Turner Fenton Secondary School, 905-453-9220 and Glenforest Secondary School, 905-625-7731
- **INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**, Allan A. Martin Senior and Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary schools, 905-274-2391 and North Park Secondary School, 905-456-1906
- **RECIPE FOR SUCCESS CHEF TRAINING PROGRAM**, Turner Fenton Secondary School, 905-453-9220, ext. 307
- **SCHOOL ONLINE**, web-based high school courses, www.school-online.ca
- **SCITECH INQUIRY CENTRE** for students in grades 6 to 8 at Tomken Road Middle School, 905-277-0321 and for high school students at Port Credit Secondary School, 905-278-3382
- **STRINGS PROGRAM**, Port Credit Secondary School, 905-278-3382
- **TEACHING TOMORROW**, career education for students interested in teaching, 905-791-2400

For more information about choice programs in the Peel board, go to www.peelschools.org.

fun

Can you describe a school board as fun? That's one of the words our people chose to depict the tone of our organization. And we think learning is about the most fun anyone can have! The use in the logo reflects the way we want Peel students and staff to feel—joyful and successful.

We picture all students as successful

Our new visual identity is an expression of our vision as an organization—helping all students achieve. That’s what System Planning for Student Success is all about—turning our improvement goals into action and measuring our progress.

The Peel board goals for 2005-2008:

Set high expectations for achievement of students and staff, and measure the outcomes

Our highly effective staff ensure that all students achieve to the best of their ability. High expectations are set through the analysis of data to guide success planning, instructional practice and resource allocation.

- implement First Steps literacy framework (kindergarten to grade 8)
- implement the Stepping Out literacy resources (grades 9 to 12)
- implement the Alphakids reading assessment (kindergarten to grade 2)
- expand instructional strategies and develop new programs for grade 7 – 12 at-risk students
- use a needs index for each school to help determine the allocation of resources

Encourage positive board/staff and school/community relationships

We promote open, honest, two-way communication among students, staff, parents and the community. We listen and respond to needs so that everyone is included, recognized and valued.

- develop and implement strategies to support site-based staff wellness using effective practices
- implement the staff recognition plan
- conduct and respond to an annual satisfaction survey for internal audiences

Use resources effectively

We acquire, align and deploy resources to support our goals and key strategies in an efficient and effective manner.

- effectively deploy the \$100 million initiative to renew school facilities
- standardize the processes and procedures for new school construction

Maximize student achievement through school success planning

We develop professional learning communities to support a school success planning framework that is inclusive, collaborative, data-driven and results oriented. School success plans are aligned with system goals and key strategies to maximize student success.

- develop and implement in all schools the School Success Planning website
- train all school leadership teams in School Success Planning

Ensure students and staff have safe and appropriate places to learn and work

We work to provide and maintain safe and healthy environments conducive to learning and working for all. The right spaces in the right places are necessary to ensure the success of our students and our staff.

- review the design of new schools and identify & implement design efficiencies to address program needs
- analyze, interpret and respond to school-by-school suspension data

Achieve equity for students and staff

We provide equity of access and opportunity for students and staff to learn, work and develop in an environment that is encouraging, respectful and inclusive.

- expand integrated system implementation of The Future We Want and the human rights policy for staff and students
- provide training to principals, vice-principals and managers in the fundamentals for addressing conflict with a focus on human rights and equity
- act on the plan to meet the requirements of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act



Use technology effectively with students and staff

We provide students and staff with technological learning opportunities to prepare them for a successful future. Our integrated, reliable, accessible and evolving electronic tools enhance learning, teaching and staff productivity.

- implement the strategic learning technology plan which includes a new, integrated system for the inter/intra net and electronic communication
- develop and implement an organization-wide strategy to share effective practices for school electronic communications

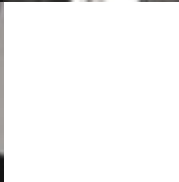
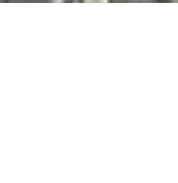
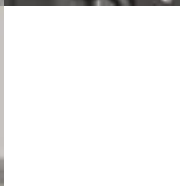
Attract, develop, and retain a diverse staff of committed, dedicated and caring people

We will attract, develop and retain well-qualified, results-oriented individuals of diverse backgrounds who are committed to lifelong learning. The collective efforts of these individuals will maximize our capacity to meet system needs and achieve student success.

- provide additional training and support to specific staff groups based on identified needs
- develop and implement orientation, induction and mentoring programs for all staff in new assignments

For more information about the Peel board goals or any of these projects, visit us at www.peelschools.org or call 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146) ext. 2809.

Trustees — strong local leadership



A board of trustees governs the Peel board, like every public school board in Ontario. They are responsible for determining policies and maintaining standards of excellence in education for Peel Region. They are elected by public school taxpayers every three years during municipal elections and are directly accountable to the community. The current 12 trustees have been elected to serve from Dec. 1, 2003 to Nov. 30, 2006.

Public school trustees are the critical link between communities and school boards. They ensure public schools meet the diverse needs of students in their communities. Together, trustees are responsible to their communities for the quality of education provided in local schools within the approved budget.

Trustee responsibilities include the following:

- govern and set policy for the Peel board
- govern for the provision of curriculum, facilities, human and financial resources for the board
- advocate for the needs of their communities
- as a constituency representative, to explain the policies and decisions of the board to residents

Trustees are available to help taxpayers, parents, and others address any issues they may have about the public school system.

For more information, check out the “Meet your trustee” section of the our website www.peelschools.org.

- A VALERIE ARNOLD-JUDGE** Caledon, 905.838.2125
B BERYL FORD Brampton Wards 7/8, 905.793.0800
C DALJIT GILL Brampton Wards 2/9/10, 905.460.9818
D DAVID GREEN Brampton Wards 1/3, 905.495.4579
E STEVE KAVANAGH Brampton Wards 4/5/6, 905.457.3132
F WARREN KENNEDY Mississauga Ward 6, 416.399.2489
G BRAD MACDONALD Mississauga Ward 8, 905.828.6929
H JANET MCDUGALD, Chair Mississauga Wards 1/7, 905.278.1402
I SUE MCFADDEN Mississauga Ward 9, 905.821.9889
J DON STEPHENS Mississauga Ward 2, 905.826.3358
K RUTH THOMPSON, Vice-Chair Mississauga Wards 3/4, 905.625.1457
L RICK WILLIAMS Mississauga Ward 5, 905.814.6180
M KEVIN WANG, Student Trustee (Rick Hansen S.S.) 905.567.4260, Schools north of highway 401
N JASMEET SIDHU, Student Trustee (Heart Lake S.S.) 905.840.2328, Schools north of highway 401

We welcome your comments

The Communications department, Peel District School Board, produces this annual report. To receive additional copies, for more information about anything in this report, or to comment, visit our website at www.peelschools.org or call 905.890.1099 (or 1.800.668.1146), ext. 2809.

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