



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: French as a Second Language Advisory Committee

Date: April 21, 2015

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Present: Trustee Co - Chair Pilkey; Kristina Laperle Parent Co-Chair (W 17); David Kim (W3); Michele Minott(W4); Sarah Smith (W7); Matt Forrest (W9); Sarah Warden(W10); Betheney Maheu (W11, W13, Alt); Sarah Smith (W15);Sharon Beason (W16); Peggy Dufresue (W19, Alt); Kingsley Kwok (W20); Pam Rigney(W21); Mary Cruden(Canadian Parents For French)

TDSB John Tancredi (Central Co-ordinating Principal); Kirsten Johnston (Program Co-ordinator FSL)

Regrets: none

Teleconference: Dina Pizolinas (W2); Sharon Kerr (W13); Pam Rigney (W21)

Recorder: Latha John (Parent and Community Engagement Office)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION
Call to Order/Quorum	Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm Chair Kristina Laperle Welcomed everyone and introductions were done. Quorum was achieved. Welcomed Kingsley as Ward rep for W 20, Sarah Warden as rep for W10	
Approval of Agenda	Motion to move the agenda by Sarah Smith, seconded by Michelle Minott. Motion Carried	
Approval of Minutes	Motion to accept the February 24th minutes by Kingsley, seconded by Betheney Maheu. Motion Carried.	
FSLAC Response for the Hall Committee on	FSLAC Response for Hall Commission: Barbara Hall has been appointed chair of a seven member panel review committee by	



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TDSB Governance	<p>the Ministry of Education to consider governance of the TDSB. The website set up for the review is http://consultationsontdsb.ca/consultations-on-tdsb</p> <p>The Governance Review panel will have public hearings and the general public and advisory committee members are encouraged to participate. Many members of FSLAC have signed up and have participated at the consultations that took place earlier this month.</p> <p>Discussion FSLAC discussed what works well at the TDSB and what needs improvement. Notes were taken on flip charts.</p>	<p>Action: Kristina will consolidate flip chart notes in the consultation format, circulate them to the group for review and will submit them to the panel electronically prior to the end of May.</p>
Chair's Report: Ministry response to FSLAC letter on draft ARC Guidelines	The letters of response attached to February 24th minutes.	
Chair Report: Minister Sandals response to FSLAC letter on Wilson Report	The letters of response attached to February 24th minutes.	
Chair Report: Parent Conferences and Workshops	<p>Kristina did parent workshops at Chester (Junior Extended) and Palmerston (immersion) on how to help your child succeed in FSL. Both were well attended and received.</p> <p>Kristina attended the TDSB SEAC conference.</p>	



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	<p>FSLAC had an information table at the east Model Schools for Inner Cities conference on April 18th at Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute and will have one at the west Conference to be on April 25 at Thistletown Collegiate Institute.</p> <p>Thank you to Kristina, Mary and Dina for attending.</p> <p>Feedback FSL should be part of all parent conferences: SEAC, MSIC and PIAC next year.</p> <p>Upcoming Consultations/Events: Mental Health conference on May 2nd for Brimwood community</p> <p>Consultation on Learning Opportunities Index (LOI)– May 7th 6-8 pm LOI ranking for schools are based on a variety of community, home and other demographic factors. One is the highest rank and indicates a school that needs additional support. LOI ranks for the top 1-50 receive additional funding. The consultations are about the methodology behind the LOI.</p> <p>TDSB Mental Health and wellbeing parents symposium May 9th</p> <p>STEM conference for parents- June 6th at Richview Collegiate to share information with parents on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and STEM careers. Committee asked staff if there could be a workshop of STEM in French. None planned for this event.</p>	
Staff Report:	<p>Provincial Working group for French as a Second Language This group is made up of a wide variety of stakeholders representing different roles within the French as a Second Language community from across Ontario. This group meets with the Ministry of Education twice each year. John and Mary are members A recent major area of focus has been the Inclusion of Students with Special Education</p>	



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	<p>Needs in French as a Second Language programs. A draft document on this topic is currently being developed by the Ministry.</p> <p>The series 'FSL for School Administrators: Awareness to Action' has two new editions which are available here: http://www.curriculum.org/fsl/projects/from-awareness-to-action-resources-for-principals-and-vice-principals</p> <p>Ministry goals for FSL are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve students proficiency and confidence in French as a second Language. • To increase the number of graduates in French as a Second Language programs • To increase parent and community engagement <p>Curriculum Services Canada with the support of the Ministry of Education has produced a new document in the Prologue series, 'Kindergarten in a French Immersion Setting'. The primary audience for this document is educators and administrators; however interested parents would also find it very helpful. Current and past editions are available here: http://www.curriculum.org/fsl/projects/prologue-a-publication-for-professional-conversations</p> <p>Long Term Program Accommodation Strategy Trustees, Superintendents and central FSL staff are looking at immersion/extended trends, statistics at existing sites, and school utilisation data to identify and meet needs for immersion and extended applicants and current students.</p>	
<p>Staff Report: Enrolment update</p>	<p>Enrolment update: the report is currently in draft format. Next steps: present draft report at Academic Council and Executive Council for approval and then proceed to PSSC. Placing of students in Early Immersion, Junior Extended French, and Middle Immersion</p>	<p>Action: Staff to share a draft copy to FSLAC committee in May and final copy to be shared in June.</p>



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	<p>is done centrally and is complete. Grade 7 Extended French placements are handled by the principals of the school housing the program. All the on-time applicants were offered placement in the program ; the number of registrations is up this year.</p>	
<p>Staff Report:</p>	<p>Secondary Curriculum Roll out update -Secondary school teachers were invited to attend one of twelve half-day sessions with instruction leaders to learn about the new changes and shift in secondary curriculum which is being implemented in September. There was a lot of discussion on the nature of changes which include a new concentration on developing oral skills for authentic communication in French. Secondary curriculum documents are here: http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/</p> <p>Comment: It was noted that the Ministry of Education doesn't accommodate the size differential of boards when allocating spots for their professional development sessions on new curriculum. FSLAC members commented that this puts additional pressure on TDSB staff that other boards do not have.</p> <p>DELF Project – Fifty grade 12 students from core, extended and immersion are participating in this exam this year. Funding is provided by the Ministry.</p> <p>Concours d'art oratoire -Six Board wide competitions. Students from grade 4-12 take part in this national French public speaking contest which is put on by Canadian Parents for French. Provincial finals will be on May 9th at Glendon College. There are sixty two students from TDSB participating. Ontario grade 11/12 finalists go on to the national competition in Ottawa where they compete for full scholarships to the University of Ottawa valued at \$32 000.</p> <p>Urban Voices – compilation of poetry of students , celebration in the east on June 4th East Education office @ 140 Borough Drive and West on June 3rd at John English</p>	



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	<p>Literacy Assessment Document - a handbook for teachers for French.</p> <p>Heritage Fairs - in East & West for Students from Grade 4-8. East at East Education office 140 Borough Drive on May 6 West on April 28th at Fort York.</p>	
Ward Reports	W2 Special Education meeting on April 28th at the Martingrove Collegiate Autism and post-secondary will be discussed.	
	W4 April 3rd had first ward council meeting with Trustee Tiffany Ford. Chair of the TDSB, Shaun Chen attended. All schools invited to have a rep at the ward council. An executive and reps for PIAC and FSLAC were elected. PIAC, FSLAC to update at every ward council. Presentation given on special education. Gifted is very underrepresented in the North west region. Parents need to be informed about gifted screening done by the TDSB and also being done privately.	
	W9 Ward council meeting next week	
	Meeting extended	
	<p>W10 - Ward council met- Lord Lansdowne will be French single track next year. Questions from parents about supports for French in primary and Voila Learning. Staff response: Voila Learning is a private company and the TDSB is not in partnership with it.</p> <p>Kristina offered to do the presentation on how to help with homework at Lord Lansdowne. In addition, Ministry of Education has great tools. The FSLAC webpage www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac has links to assistance as well.</p>	



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	<p>W11 Shelley Laskin had a ward forum dedicated to Twitter and how to use the tool at schools. Classrooms across the board have used Twitter for homework. Staff from main office monitoring the twitter access at the board.</p>	
	<p>W13 Ward forum with Trustee Gerri Gershon – Capacity issues and lots of impending construction. W13 involved in proposed ARC with East York Collegiate and it will be on the agenda at the ward forum this week.</p>	
	<p>W15 Jennifer Story trying to revive the ward council. Trying to get guest speakers to ward meetings. Future topics are going to be on technology in classrooms, mental health.</p> <p>Questions to staff: What kind of assistance do principals new to immersion schools receive? Staff response: Ministry provided information sheets are a new resource. Central FSL staff supports new principals.</p> <p>Clarification on Long Term Occasional FSL teacher qualifications? Staff response: Teachers delivering French programs must have FSL part 1 (additional qualification course) or if they have other suitable qualifications or experience, they can have an exemption from the requirement for 1 year and work on a “letter of permission”.</p> <p>How will students whose parents choose to have them attend kindergarten half day manage in the immersion program? Staff response: This is a choice which is open to parents. The teacher considers the performance of the student and provides support as needed.</p>	
	<p>W16 Parents from Glen Ames Senior Public School and R H McGregor Elementary School are also asking about Voila Learning like Ward 10 parents. There are no</p>	



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	<p>homework clubs that feature French in Ward 16</p> <p>Upcoming W 13,15-16 ARC includes Riverdale which is a secondary site for extended. Some talk has been heard about making East York an immersion site. Request made of staff to check into the progress of this ARC and ask for FSLAC representation on the ARC.</p>	<p>Action: John Tancredi will request FSLAC representation for ARC including Riverdale and East York.</p>
	<p>W17 Ward forum with focus on FSL information went well. It was well attended.</p>	
	<p>W20 Ward forum on April 16th. Kingsley Kwok elected as FSLAC member. One Parent called Trustee due to the distance of the school for a grade 6 student who qualifies for bus but requires two transfers. The board policy to be followed through on the issue.</p>	
	<p>W21 Apps for Education Monday April 27 at Agincourt Collegiate Institute. May 6th Community Mental Health night with therapist Joe Rich at George S Henry Academy. May 25th Public Health to do a session on Mental Health with Dr Karen A. Gordon to talk about healthy children</p>	
Trustee Report	<p>Trustee Pilkey - Monthly Ward Forum, next one on Tuesday Barbara hall from the Panel to come to the meeting. Previous meeting: Peter Singh presented about the board's technology available to schools. Final meeting of the year will be at Lucy McCormick Senior School which is for students with medical, physical, communication, and behavioural challenges. Approximately 40 percent of the population are in wheelchairs.</p>	
Next Meeting Date	May 19th, 2015	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 9:29	

