



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: French As A Second Language Advisory Committee

Date: October 27, 2015

Time: 7:00 pm

Present: Trustee Robin Pilkey; Chair Kristina Laperle (W17); Dina Pizolinas (W2); Lena Angell (W5); Lauralyn Johnston (W8); Rosemary Sutherland (W9 Alt); Sarah Warden (W10); Sarah Smith (W15); Sharon Beason (W16); Peggy Dufresue(W19 ,Alt); Mary Cruden (Canadian Parents for French)

Teleconference: Betheney Maheu (Parent vice Co-chair, W11); Wilmar Kortleever(W13)

TDSB : Kirsten Johnston (Co-ordinator FSL); Executive Superintendent Colleen Russell- Rawlins (Early Years Learning & Care); Sheryl Robinson-Petrazzini (Central Coordinating Principal Early Years Learning & Care); Liz Hoang (Manager, Early Years Learning & Care);


Regrets: John Tancredi (Central Coordinating Principal)

Guests: Maddy Pilkey (Student at Humberside); Jessica Scott (Earl Beatty); Joanne Griffith; Gail Miller (Parent)

Recorder: Latha John (Parent and Community Engagement Office)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/ MOTION/ACTION
Call to Order/Quorum	Meeting called to order by Chair Laperle. Quorum achieved at 7:07 pm. Welcome Introductions followed.	
Membership	Lena Angell is the new rep for Ward 5. Ward 1 Rep and Alt have not attended for more than 3 consecutive meetings and the position is declared vacant. Trustee will be notified and replacements sought.	Latha will update membership list.



Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda by Rosemary Sutherland and seconded by Lauralyn Johnston. Motion carried.	
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve the September 24 <sup>th</sup> Minutes by Peggy Dufresue and seconded by Lena Angell. Motion carried.	
<p>Guest speaker Colleen Russell- Rawlins Executive Superintendent Early Years Learning and Care</p>	<p>Presentation is attached.</p> <p><b>Discussion /Questions</b></p> <p>Q: Are the spots in before and after (B &amp; A) school FDK subsidised? A: Subsidies are provided by City of Toronto. Government is specific that the programs be cost recovery basis.</p> <p>Q: Who sets the ratio of age for the programs and what are the ratios? A: The ratios are set up by the Ministry of Education under the Childcare and Early Years Act (2014): Infant 3:10, Toddler 1:5, Preschool 1:8 in exclusive space. FDK before and after ratio is 1:13 in an FDK room. School Age (6-9) program ratio is 1:15 and School Age (9-12) is 1:20 in shared space.</p> <p>Q: Are there physical space restrictions for FDK B&amp; A space? A: The requirements for room size to host a FDK Before and After School Program no longer exist. The room must be used for the same age group during the day.</p> <p>Q: Will childcare be available for 12 yr. olds in middle schools (gr 6-8)? A: The ministry has indicated that there will be legislation forthcoming around school-age, licensed child care programs. Most school-age programs currently operating serve children to age 8 or 9 for a variety of reasons. Older children often participate in a variety of after-school programs. Where there is parental interest in starting a new program, the principal and child care managers work with the community to assess the need (e.g., survey) and engage in finding a suitable operator that meets TDSB and City of Toronto requirements.</p> <p>Q: Parents question the ratios for 1:8 for ages up to 44 months and children who are older by months the ratios jump to 1:13 . A: Ratios are determined by the Ministry of Education. There is both an ECE and a Teacher in most</p>	 <p>FSLAC Presentation Oct 2015 Oct. 26.pdf</p>



	<p>Kindergarten classrooms. Kindergarten classrooms are located in a school which has a variety of program supports for children and educators that are supportive of a higher ratio. We acknowledge that the discrepancy is confusing for some parents.</p> <p>Q: How is the ratio governed during lunch hour &amp; outdoor supervision period, as the ratios set by Ministry do not seem to apply. A: Lunch Period is part of a school day. Schools set supervision schedules that take into consideration factors such as outdoor space, number of children etc... Yes, children are supervised by a lunchroom assistant over the lunch period. Additional staff (lunchroom supervisors) are unfunded.</p> <p>Q: Exclusive space for childcare. When the school population has grown and children are in portables, what is the policy in place to adapt to growth? A: The child care in school policy values childcare partners who offer services to the families &amp; community. Many children in the childcare have siblings in the school. Delicate balancing act to look at how rooms are being utilised in schools. The on-site childcare is not immediately displaced from a school when a need for space is identified. Rather the Central Accommodation Team works with the principal and superintendent on examining options or solving the space concern at schools</p> <p><b>Catchments and FI/Ext French Students:</b> Child care centres don't have official policy restricting who is accepted in the childcare. It is usually based on the availability of space in the childcare up to the ratios set by the Ministry. Children in a childcare located in a FI school are not automatically granted access to the SK FI Program at the school. FI/Ext French placement is determined through a central placement. Transportation policy affects child care for FI/Ext students- Parents have an opportunity to express an interest of childcare at the local school (French immersion)- for Child care (FDK B &amp; A).</p> <p>Q: Childcare may be available in the home school English but not in the FI school. Bus schedule and taking students from the bus to the childcare room is an issue. How do we align with B &amp; A school</p>	<p>Action: FSLAC to invite Transportation to a</p>
--	--	--



	<p>care with bussing in FI/Ext to support families? A: Child care operators don't have the staff that would be required to escort the child to and from the bus.</p> <p>Q: Would it be different if TDSB was running the FDK before and after school programs and not a third party? A: TDSB would be in a similar situation to the one that exists now for most childcare operators. To exceed the ratio of staff to students, beyond those set by the Ministry, would raise the fees for the program, possible making it inaccessible financially to many families. We will continue to examine options for parents of children in FI.</p>	future meeting to discuss bussing issues.
Chair's Report Parent Conference Draft PARC policy review	<p>PIAC hosting a parent conference on Sat Nov 14 – "Unlocking your Child's Full potential".</p> <p>FSLAC to do four workshops scheduled- Chair Kristina Laperle to do the three workshops on helping your child to succeed in FSL programs, Peggy Dufresue volunteered to do the fourth session.</p> <p>FSLAC to share a table with Canadian Parents for French at the conference.</p> <p>Sharon Beason &amp; Lauralyn Johnston to be at the table.</p> <p>A new Pupil Accommodation Review policy is going to consultation Nov 30 – this covers process for potential school closures and parent voice in the process.</p> <p>Dina Pizolinas and Mary Cruden to represent FSLAC .</p>	
Communication update	<p>Dates for French information nights and registration deadline to be sent by E- Blast to the distribution list of parents.</p> <p>Q: is the labour disruption affecting distribution of SKFI info packages to parents? A: Staff –Info packages were prepared and distributed to principals and then to the community. Enquiries being fielded from parents across the system.</p>	Action: FSLAC to send e-blast reminder of FI registration dates to distribution list.
Staff Report: Year 3 DELF pilot	The ministry DELF project is on hold due to labour issues.	
Staff Report: Research report on Characteristics	The report on Characteristics of Students in French Immersion and Extended French to go to PSSC on November 12th.	



<p>of Students in French Immersion and Extended French</p>	<p>The demographic data had overall enrolment and different racial, socio economic groups represented. The demographic information was taken from 2011-2012 student/parent TDSB census data.</p> <p><b>Feedback:</b> TDSB's ability to do research and to have the research to guide programming was appreciated by the committee. The TDSB is transparent and impressive.</p> <p>The data shows that the programs are accessed by all groups, including families who have recently arrived and also by parents who were both born outside Canada.</p>	
<p>Information Night Plan</p>	<p>SKFI information nights are posted on the Board's website, including the home page and are being tweeted. Ads are being placed in community newspapers. Labour issues may affect availability of instructional leaders for information nights as they are ETFO members. Virtual informational night on November 19th.</p> <p><b>Informational Night Video</b> Draft video prepared by FSL department as a resource to be used for Informational night was presented to FSLAC.</p> <p><b>Feedback:</b> Language used to describe proficiency outcomes would be easier to understand if they were consistent with CEFR descriptions. Generalizations and comparisons about different program outcomes that are not the basis of in-depth research should be used with caution. Overall the language content in the video is too fast and requires a text for people whose first language is not English.</p>	
<p>PARC/T updates</p>	<p><b>**Meeting extended by 15 minutes**</b></p> <p><b>North Toronto-</b> 7 Junior high schools (gr 7-9). The Board wants grade 9 to high schools, which will cause gr 6 to move Junior schools. Parents raising concerns over issue of travel safety for grade 6 and lack of B &amp; A school care for grade 6. FI students have to travel farther than English students, which could affect retention rates. Concerns with students from Don Valley who have to do an extra transition for Grade 9 and then move again</p>	



	<p>to a Grade 10-12 high school. Parents requesting more options for the students.</p> <p><b>Yonge &amp; Eglinton</b> - Three proposed condo developments have 12000 Residential units and will cause overcrowding in the local elementary schools, not enough land for portables. Proposal includes 4 feeder schools send Grade 6 students elsewhere. This involves, extended French at Eglinton, new extended French at Forest Hill and SKFI at Davisville. Eglinton is over capacity. Major pressure points in schools are in Davisville/Oriole Park - students have to travel long distances.</p>	
Ward Reports	No Ward reports to report	
Other Business	None	
Next Meeting Date	Next meeting date is November 24, 2015	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm	

