



Community Advisory Committee Report

Community advisory committee:	French as a Second Language Advisory Committee
Meeting held on:	June 19, 2012
Time:	From: 7:00 p.m. To: 9:00 p.m.
Location:	5050 Yonge Street – Committee Room A
Chair:	Sindy Preger (Parent Co-chair)
Members present:	David Kim (W3), Heather Jordan (W7), Issy Vlaykov (W8), Kathryn Yung (W10), Sindy Preger (co-chair, W11 Alt), Sharon Kerr (W13), Wilmar Kortleeve (W13 Alt), Tanya English (W14), Jennifer Story (W15), Kristina Laperle (W17), Cindy Ewins (W17 Alt), Cheryl Wilson (W19)
Members not present:	Dina Pizolinas (W2), Laura Steele-Gunter (W7 Alt), Aine O’Flynn (W8 Alt), Rosemary Sutherland (W9), Charmaine Merchant (W9 Alt), Barak Queija (W10 Alt), Christopher May (W11), Michael Rochweg (W12), Karen Galler (W12 Alt), Fiona Gordon (W12 Alt), Andrea Demchuk (W14 Alt), Sanne Kaas-Mason (W16), Thandi Briggs (W19 Alt), Christina Zimmer (W19 Alt), David Dai (W21), Patricia Legrand (W21 Alt), Debbie-Lynn Hoste (W22)

Part A: Committee Recommendations

No matters to report

Part B: Information Only

Topic: FSLAC Parent Co-chair’s Year End Report

1. Membership

There are 29 parent members and alternates on the FSLAC from 17 wards and 1 non-voting community member from Canadian Parents for French (Ontario). Sheila Ward is our trustee co-chair and trustees Maria Rodrigues and Pamela Gough are members. FSL program staff attends all meetings. Several students from the Supercouncil have been attending and participating in FSLAC meetings this year.

2. FSLAC Activity at the Board

The FSLAC met 8 times in the 2011-12 school year, attended numerous immersion/extended information nights to meet new parents and to support the presentations of principals and FSL staff, participated in PARCs and met on an on-going basis with TDSB staff including FSL program staff, superintendents and deputy director. The FSLAC and FSL program staff have an excellent working relationship. FSLAC members also supported students, parents and staff through school and community based French events.

Meeting notices, agendas and minutes are posted on the FSLAC page on the TDSB website (www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac). We receive administrative support from the Parent Engagement Office including updating our TDSB webpage.

Our communications lead parent maintains the FSLAC gmail account. The address (fslactoronto@gmail.com) is posted on the FSLAC TDSB webpage. The gmail account facilitates communication with parents and stakeholders and distribution of the FSLAC newsletter which we produced 3 times this year. The newsletter goes to approximately 100 schools with extended/immersion programs, trustees, approximately 300 individual parents and FSL stakeholders who have signed up. The communications lead and the parent co-chair respond to many inquiries, the majority of which are about how to access programs and what staff member to talk to about issues in FSL programming.

3. FSLAC Participation in Pupil Accommodation Review Committees (PARC) and Program Area Review Teams (PART)

The Ward 1 PARC was attended by Dina Pizolinas. The Ward 16/17 PARC was attended by Cheryl Wilson and the Ward 16 PARC was attended by Kristina Laperle.

The Ward 7 PART including Runnymede PS was attended by Laura Steele-Gunter and the Ward 7 PART including Queen Victoria PS was attended by Heather Jordan.

FSLAC members participate in PARC and PART meetings and provide insight into French programs from the FSL parent perspective.

4. Visit by Commissioner of Official Languages Graham Fraser

Commissioner of Official Languages, Graham Fraser accepted the invitation of the FSLAC to meet at Parkdale PS on January 17, 2012. Commissioner Fraser and his Ontario representative, Suzanne Belanger-Fontaine, visited the SK French Immersion full day kindergarten and the grade one class and met with the FSLAC parent co-chair, vice co-chair, FSL program staff and senior program staff.

5. Current Opportunities

Extended/Immersion Program Expansion:

In September 2012, 4 new SK immersion sites will open. We congratulate staff and local trustees on these successful expansions to meet demand. With the addition of the Broadacres site and the potential for another through the Ward 1 PARC, the largest catchment in the Board will be redrawn making the SK immersion program much more accessible. With the addition of Earl Beatty and Morse, the growing demand in the ward 15/16 area is being addressed. We continue to monitor the situation in Scarborough and are pleased that the addition of Alexander Stirling will make SK immersion more accessible north of the 401.

Full Day Kindergarten:

In September 2012, there will be 9 SK French immersion programs with full day kindergarten. The first SK French immersion program with full day kindergarten was Parkdale PS in 2010.

Common European Framework of Reference:

The current and continuing discussion at the FSLAC is very much focused on quality and outcomes, particularly equipping our students to be confident French readers and speakers. The FSLAC is very supportive of the on-going work by FSL staff to train teachers in the application of the Common European Framework of Reference and the communicative approach to learning French.

FSL Policy Development:

The FSLAC has monitored and provided input into the development of the draft FSL policy statement since the Review of French Immersion and Extended French in 2005/06. The final public consultation will take place at the September 19, 2012 FSLAC meeting.

6. 2012-2013 Plans

Sindy Preger (W11) was elected at the June meeting as parent co-chair with Kristina Laperle (W17) and Kathryn Yung (W10) elected as parent vice co-chairs. Dina Pizolinas (W2) and Cheryl Wilson (W19) will be the communications leads. Efforts will continue to work with trustees to fill FSLAC member vacancies in wards 1, 4, 5, 6 and 18. Trustees may contact the FSLAC at fslactoronto@gmail.com.

7. Upcoming meetings: September 19 and October 25, 2012.

Sindy Preger, FSLAC Parent Co-chair

Report submitted by: Amanda Tiberio – Committee Assistant, Parent and Community Engagement