



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: French as Second Language Advisory Committee

Date: November 4, 2014

Time: 7:00pm

Present: Kristina Laperle (Parent Co-Chair, W17); Betheney Maheu (Vice Chair, W12/13); Lauralyn Johnston (W8); Claudia Webb (W8 Alt); Matt Forest (Ward 9); Sharon Kerr (Ward 13/21); Wilmar Kortleever (W13); Sarah Smith (W15); Suzanne Philips (W15 Alt); Pam Rigney (Ward 21, Alt); Mary Cruden (Canadian Parents for French);

Guests: Sharon Beason (Parent-W13); Patrick Robinson (Parent-Davisville); Laura Gage (Parent-Jackman); Roger Guttormson (Parent-Davisville/Northlea);

TDSB: Andrew Gowdy (Senior Manager, Strategy and Planning); TDSB staff: Kirsten Johnston (Program Co-coordinator, FSL); John Tancredi (Central Co-coordinating Principal, FSL);

Teleconference: Trustee Pamela Gough; David Kim (W 3); Cheryl Wilson (W19); Laura Steele (W7); Hans Bathija (resident-W10);

Regrets: Dina Pizolinas (Ward 2)

Recorder: Latha John (Parent and Community Engagement Office).

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION
Call to Order/Quorum	Chair Kristina Laperle called the meeting to order @ 7:08 Quorum was achieved. Welcome and introductions followed.	

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Approval of Agenda	**Motion: To approve the agenda as amended (Optional Attendance moved to first item) by Bethany Maheu, seconded by Lauralyn Johnston. Carried.	
Approval of Minutes September 23, 2014	<p>Amendments on the Minutes from September 23, 2014</p> <p>Matt Forest (W8 Alt) to(W9),</p> <p>Lauralyn Johnston absent on September 23rd</p> <p>**Motion: To approve the minutes with the amendments by Bethany Maheu. Seconded by David Kim. Carried.</p>	Action: Latha will amend and post minutes on FSLAC webpage
Membership Review	<p>Jennifer Story removed as rep for W15.</p> <p>Sarah Smith is rep for W15, Suzanna Phillips is the alternate</p>	Action: Latha will update membership list.
Optional Attendance Process -Guest speaker Andrew Gowdy- Planning TDSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional Attendance Process is followed when students look to attend schools outside the areas of catchment, it allows a deviation from established pathways • Optional Attendance status is based on space utilization and enrolment by program, grade and class • Status is determined for every school every year • Closed to optional attendance – No space • Limited for optional attendance- some space • October 31st enrolment data and other data becomes available in mid-November <p>Data collected for informing optional attendance status decisions: current enrolment, projected enrolment, school capacity according to Ministry of Education, utilisation rate (enrolment :building capacity), portables on site,</p>	

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	<p>organization of classes within the school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The information is discussed with the principal and superintendent to determine the status of the school. • 85% utilization is optimal for elementary schools for maximizing provincial funding with top up grant up to 15%, 90% for Secondary schools. • FSL tracks can be different from the English track; ie, FI might be 'limited' to allow for backfilling classes. Principal's organization strategy is considered. • Secondary enrolment projected to decline over the next couple of years • Combined classes (split grade classes) provide more flexibility • Review of optional attendance policy expected to be complete by the end of 2014/15 school year; process will be consistent with the one used for the FSL P080 where the public was consulted at several meetings. <p>Feedback</p> <p>Suggestion made that release of Optional Attendance status should be before secondary information nights. Students shop around, find a school they like only to find out weeks later the schools they looked at are 'closed'. Most FI secondary schools have been 'closed' in recent years.</p> <p>Observation made that optional attendance as it pertains to guaranteed pathway to the regular program from on-site daycare is problematic in dual track schools. FI and regular program students have different status and the space allocation between the tracks is being pre-determined by the daycare not by the TDSB. This part of the Optional Attendance policy needs close consideration in the review.</p>	

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	<p>Question raised about optional attendance for JK for younger siblings of FI students. The move from JK at the home English school to an SKFI program is a transition that has not been examined. Parents would like their JK kids to be at the same school as their FI age kids. Noted that some Immersion centres have never had JK while others lost theirs, notably John Fisher and Winchester. Melody Village is in transition.</p> <p>Question raised about specialized schools, like Etobicoke School for the Arts. It has no boundaries and a special admission process. It accepts students from outside of Toronto while turning down current TDSB students who apply. Aren't all TDSB schools reserved for Toronto residents first?</p> <p>The committee thanked Andrew Gowdy for the presentation and looks forward to participating in the Optional Attendance Policy review.</p>	
<p>Parent Co-Chair's Report-Kristina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee Candidate Survey Project 	<p>Trustee Candidate Survey results presented to the committee. Three questions were emailed via Google survey to Trustee Candidates during the election period, 76 out of 120 candidates responded to the survey. Responses were circulated to parents on our email list and are posted in the Member Briefing book on our Google drive.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Review Update 	<p>Attended meeting of CAC chairs, opportunity to network and to hear next steps from the CAC review from the Parent and Community Engagement staff.</p> <p>Annual CAC Meetings- Two annual meetings for chairs & Co chairs for all CAC committees - September to present the goals of the boards to be supported by the committees for the year and June to share accomplishments and best</p>	<p>Action : Kristina will ask for spreadsheet of activated parent council emails from the Parent and Community Engagement office.</p>

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	<p>practices.</p> <p>Academic Workspace</p> <p>Academic workspace -online tool for TDSB, to be provided and managed for all CACs by the Parent and Community Engagement office. Program includes automatic notifications, announcements, calendar and documents shared within advisory committees.</p> <p>Standardizing CAC Documents</p> <p>Template for the Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct to be provided by Parent and Community Engagement office.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PIAC Conference Preparation 	<p>PIAC Conference at Earl Haig SS- FSLAC has a table. Volunteers to be at the table needed. Kristina will present 'French: Helping your child succeed' in workshops. Presentation is available here: www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac</p>	<p>Action: available members/alternates to send email to Kristina to volunteer for PIAC conference</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December Newsletter 	<p>Newsletter.</p> <p>Suggested items:</p> <p>New Trustee survey material with trustee permission.</p> <p>How to handle difficulties in FSL-info and suggested actions.</p>	<p>Action: Kirsten will help with the difficulties article.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKFI Information Nights 	<p>The dates are posted on the website.</p>	<p>Action: members/alts to</p>

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	Members/alts to attend, if possible, to support the schools' presentations to prospective parents.	attend SKFI info nights, if possible, during November
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to the FSLAC Presentation Slides 	Betheney presented a power point for members to use at parent/community/ward meetings to share information about the FSLAC. Available for downloading: www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac	
	**Meeting extended 15 minutes.	
Staff Report – Kirsten and John	<p>Communication of application information for Senior Kindergarten French immersion: info package was given to every JK student, items were placed in local newspapers, posters were distributed across the TDSB, info was tweeted; live web chat info session for parents will take place later in November.</p> <p>In the first 30 hour of applications being accepted on-line, 1500 applicants were received</p> <p>Curriculum Meetings on-going – ELearning courses in development for the secondary level, working with Con ED, hoping to offer Core French.</p>	
CPF Updates – Kristina/Mary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RÉFO Conference 	Mary attended the Regroupement d'étudiants franco-ontarien (RÉFO) Conference- Franco-Ontarian community is working on creating a new, independent Francophone university in Ontario.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPF Conference 	Kristina and Mary attended the Canadian Parents for French (www.cpf.ca) - National conference in Ottawa.	

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	<p>Historian Mathew Hayday spoke about the parent movement in FSL. His new book 'Coaxing French Down our Throats' will be out in 2015. He will be a key note speaker for CPF Ontario (www.on.cpf.ca) conference to be held in Toronto in October 2015.</p> <p>Francolab from TV 5 – new on-line resource to support French language learners. Aimed at 12 yrs and up with Canadian content, French songs, legends with fun videos and quizzes. www.francolab.ca</p>	
Ward Reports	<p>W8- new trustee very involved in the Model schools. Claudia will be attending the upcoming ward meeting.</p> <p>W9- parents asking questions on the SKFI application process, bussing and lateness.</p> <p>W11 & 13 – Learnmark being used to find resources. Very helpful to parents.</p> <p>W15 – Met with the new Trustee, will try to attend the SKFI information sessions. Parent concern raised that Special Ed support is not available and school recommending withdrawal rather than support in the immersion program.</p> <p>W17 -Getting in touch with new trustee</p>	Action: Members/alts encouraged to connect with new trustees.
Next Meeting Date	January 27, 2015	
Adjournment	9:15 pm	