



### COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: French as- a Second Language Advisory Committee

Date: January 12, 2016

Time: 7:00 pm

Present: Trustee Co- Chair Robin Pilkey; Parent Co -Chair Kristina Laperle (W17); Parent Vice Chair Betheney Maheu (W13); Parents Vice Chair Matt Forrest (W9); Caroline Tolton Paterson (W7 Alt); Lauralyn Johnston (W8); Steph Rickard Chadda (W14, W11 Alt); Sharon Beason (W16); Kingsley Kwok (W20)

Teleconference: David Kim (W3); Bronwyn Graves (W15 Alt)

TDSB: John Tancredi (Central Coordinating Principal); Kristen Johnston (Co-ordinator FSL)

Regrets: Lena Angell (W5); Sarah Smith (W15)

Guests: Céline Marcoux-Hamade (Toronto Public Library); Amitis Nowroozi (Pleasant School); Hamid Imami (Pleasant School)

Recorder: Latha John (Parent and Community Engagement Office)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/ MOTION/ACTION
Call to Order/Quorum	Meeting called to order by Chair Kristina Laperle. Quorum was achieved at 7:12pm.  <b>Membership update</b> Student Trustee -Sammy Al Rubaie Caroline Tolton Paterson alternate for Ward 7	



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	Bronwyn Graves alternate for Ward 15	
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve agenda by Lauralyn Johnston, seconded by Kingsley Wok. All in favour. Motion carried.	
Approval of November 24th Minutes	Motion to approve minutes by Kingsley Kwok, seconded by Matt Forest. All in favour. Motion carried.	
Guest: Céline Marcoux-Hamade Toronto Public Library Senior Services Specialist-French Language	<p>The French programs and services offered at the Toronto Public Library are geared for the French community or Francophone community, students from French language schools and French Immersion schools.</p> <p>Information about all French programs for kids and adults can be accessed on Toronto Public Library website (<a href="http://torontopubliclibrary.ca">torontopubliclibrary.ca</a>) and is made available to people who have registered to receive information via emails submitted to the library. The Toronto Public Library is working on promoting the French program on social media -Twitter &amp; Facebook.</p> <p><b>Children's Programs</b>            Sixteen programs are being offered this March break at various branches; 26-30 programs typically run in the summer. The programs offered include magic shows, music, juggling, interactive theatre. All information for French children's program is presented in the bilingual format. All programs are free.</p> <p>French Story Time is offered at various branches throughout the year. The number of programs depends on the limited funding available. People from the community are hired for the programs. Programs run bet 4-6 weeks depending on the age of the Children programs. The program is successful if there 10- 15 kids attending the program.</p>	




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	<p><b>Programs for Older Children, Tweens and Teens</b>            In response to requests for programs for teens, pre-teens, there will be a two hour writing workshop to be introduced this March break at Yorkville library. The success of the program will lead to offering more programs for this age group.</p> <p>Q. Are these programs for teens appropriate for students of extended French?            A. The Program is designed for students who are able to speak in French. The program is not a place to learn French. Geared towards people who are interested in exploring various styles of writing in French.</p> <p>Homework club in French is available at certain locations- Don Mills, York Woods, Malvern &amp; Parliament in partnership with with Voila Learning. The program is well received</p> <p><b>Other Programs and Resources</b>            E-books are available for online downloading through Overdrivebooks and Ma Biblio Numerique.            Adult programming: French films with subtitles are shown at some branches and Mango Languages is available online.</p> <p><b>Rationale for Program Location and Resource Allocation</b>            Toronto Public Library runs programs at the different locations and if there is no attendance for the programs they are discontinued. French programs are created based on availability of French staff at any location, but staff are not specifically hired or assigned to a particular location.</p> <p>Over two thirds of the library's 99 branches have a children's French collection.            Some libraries have more French resources than others due to level of interest at specific locations and available space. Opportunities change as some libraries are being renovated.</p>	




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	<p><b>Toronto Public Library &amp; TDSB Information Sharing</b>            French program information is sent to the contacts at the four school boards in Toronto. Direct communication with schools is not possible. FSL Coordinator/Central Coordinating Principal can pass the information along through weekly board communication to Trustees and principals who can then share with parents.</p> <p>Toronto Public library's website link for French programs and resources is not user friendly to Anglophone parents of French immersion, core or extended students. The resources may not be properly used by the FSL students as Anglophone parents are not aware of them.</p> <p>Feedback: The website would be more user friendly if all of the information about French resources were available in French and English.</p>	
<p>Chair's Report            Review - Draft pupil            accommodation            policy PO68</p>	<p><b>Draft Pupil Accommodation Policy Consultation</b>            FSLAC was represented by Chair Kristina Laperle &amp; Mary Cruden, other Community Advisory Committees (CAC) were part of the consultation.            Three public consultations are coming up and FSLAC members can attend on the following dates:            Jan 18 - Winston Churchill Library            Jan 19 – 5050 Yonge Street Board Office            Jan 21 – Martin Grove Collegiate in the library.</p> <p>At the consultation the following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Community Advisory Communities (CAC's) should be included in the consultation process when programs directly affecting their communities are being considered.</li> <li>• Communication to the parents needs to be improved by communicating sooner in the process and relying on more direct communication methods, and a wider variety of communication methods.</li> <li>• The language used to communicate with parents needs to be accessible to the parents with a</li> </ul>	



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	<p>variety of language abilities in order to have constructive conversation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarity on the different types of consultations and on the role of parents if it is informational or co-constructive consultations.</li> <li>• More clarity on the process itself, including the process of deputation, and the process for the dissent of the reports and accessibility of minority reports is needed for parents who are generally not familiar with these processes.</li> </ul> <p>Trustee Feedback: Policy to be updated after the community consultations, then it goes to Planning and Priorities Committee and upon approval to the Board in February for final approval. The board is revising the policy based on new Ministry of Education guidelines.</p> <p><b>Model Schools Conference</b> The PIAC-SEAC co-hosted conference will be on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. FSLAC is interested in having the new info from the Ministry document ‘Including Students with Special Needs in FSL’ shared at the conference.</p> <p><b>Ward 21-Trustee Survey</b> Trustee candidate responses to the FSLAC survey be compiled and distributed to FSLAC email list. By-election is Jan 26<sup>th</sup>. 19 candidates.</p>	<p>Kristina will follow-up with conference organizers.</p>
<p>Staff Report “Including Students with Special Education Needs in French as a Second Language Programs” document Q &amp; A (continued from Nov.</p>	<p><b>“Including Students with Special Education Needs in French as a Second Language Programs”</b> document was received at all 600 and more schools.</p> <p>The Special Education French Fact sheet was presented to the committee (attached) Document is being shared with all principals, all guidance staff and special education staff. The last action ever to be considered is the demission of students. Data shows that students with special needs can succeed in FSL with appropriate support. Principals have the discretion to substitute up to 3 compulsory courses, however, there is no</p>	 <p>includingFLS2015 (1).pdf</p>



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24, 2015 meeting)	<p>requirement for one to be French.</p> <p>Case studies provided in the document have good ideas for parents on how to communicate with the school and at student support meetings.</p> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p> <p>Q. Are schools bound to provide support to students in French?</p> <p>A. If exceptionalities are identified, the most effective method of intervention is in the classroom with the classroom teacher. If external help is necessary for students, it is made accessible for students in French. Scheduling issues may come up with intervention from Home School Program (HSP) in terms of the number of students in French immersion requiring support.</p> <p>Q. Are the French immersion classes fuller than English classes, meaning more overloaded teachers with less time for individual attention?</p> <p>A. In some areas the entry classes are loaded, but the class sizes are the same in the board system wide. Accommodations provided by the classroom teacher do not always need to be individual attention. Some forms of accommodation and teaching strategies can benefit all students in the class.</p> <p>Q. What kind of support is available to regular classroom teachers who have students with exceptional or special needs?</p> <p>A. Special Education Specialists support regular classroom teachers in the schools by providing strategies and resources. The strategies are mostly the same for French and English programs. All accommodations apply for French as in English programs.</p>	 <p>Special Education French Fact Sheet.pc</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PARS/Registration update</li> </ul>	<p>Immersion applications are closed. 41 schools have done the process to place students. 14 going through redirection, 6 for internal lottery and 5 new sites this fall.</p>	



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	<p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>Q. How long do the parents have to respond on French immersions? A. Five days to respond.</p> <p>Q. What do parents do if offers of placement have gone out to others in the area, and parents have not received one? What is the process to follow-up and ensure the place is not lost? A. Check with the principal of the French immersion school or families can check the status of application online.</p>	
PART updates from around the city	<p>Middle Immersion PART in the next FSLAC meeting. French representation- Sarah Smith represents FSLAC at the Secondary school PART. Staff recommendation is closing the site Greenwood secondary but not closing the school.</p> <p><b>Optional attendance</b> Optional attendance is on the list of policies for review. It would require public consultations</p>	
Ward Reports	<p><b><u>Ward 3</u></b> Second street to have Early immersion</p> <p><b><u>Ward 7</u></b> Kristina Laperle presented at Ward 7 Council. Associate Director Angelos Bacopoulos spoke at the meeting. The new director to speak at the next meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Ward 8</u></b> Discussion on sharing the cost of speakers between the schools and ways to collaborate. Aboriginal Education Speaker at the next meeting.</p>	



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	<p><b><u>Ward 9</u></b> Space &amp; long term issues planning meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Ward 14</u></b> Finished PART for Middle school</p> <p><b><u>Ward 15</u></b> Redirect of students, parents are upset, ongoing concern. Trustee feedback: Ward boundary shouldn't affect program delivery.</p>	
Trustee Report	All Trustees to meet in February with Planning, Teaching & learning, French, Special Education Departments. Long term planning and accommodation for Senior Staff and Trustees.	
Other Business	Trustees held their annual organization meeting in December where committee reps are chosen. Trustee Pilkey is the Trustee Representative for FSLAC.	
Next Meeting Date	Next meeting on February 9, 2015	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm. All in favour. Motion carried.	

