

French as a Second Language Advisory Committee (FSLAC) – Operating Guidelines

Adopted by the FSLAC on March 25, 2008

The FSLAC was formed in the fall of 2005 after the TDSB's revision of the Parent Involvement Policy (http://www.tdsb.on.ca/wwwdocuments/parents/parent_groups/docs/P023-parentAndCommunityInvolvement.pdf). The FSLAC welcomes the participation of all parents, students, teachers, staff and trustees.

Mission Statement of the FSLAC (adopted by TDSB January 31, 2007):

To consult with and advise the Board on French as a Second Language matters. As a Board community advisory committee, the FSLAC will contribute to the work of trustees and staff. This partnership of trustees, staff and parents will foster excellence and growth in FSL programs at the Board.

Parent Membership:

Parents from each ward may elect a member and an alternate who are parents of TDSB students for a term of two years from 2005. Additional alternates may join upon approval by the FSLAC. Preferably, trustees and ward councils would hold the election at their last meeting of the school year.

Parent Co-chair:

The parent co-chair is elected by parent members at the last meeting of each school year.

Trustee Membership and Trustee Co-chair:

Trustee members and the trustee co-chair will be selected at the annual organizational meeting of the TDSB in December.

Role of parent members:

Parent members attend approximately eight FSLAC meetings per school year, take a Board wide perspective on FSL matters, liaise between the FSLAC, their ward council and schools and participate at Program Area Review Teams to support excellence and growth in FSL programs.

Role of co-chairs:

The co-chairs set the meeting agendas with input from members, chair the meetings, maintain the membership list, liaise with Board staff, communicate regularly with the members and represent the FSLAC at the TDSB and externally.

Decision making:

The preferred model for decision making is consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, any member may put forward a motion for a vote. The co-chair(s) may ask for a motion for a vote, may set the matter aside or may provide differing points of view in advice to the Board.

Motions must be seconded and discussed prior to voting. There is one vote per ward, cast by the parent member (including the parent co-chair). If the member is not present, the alternate will cast the vote. The co-chair(s) will confirm parent membership by ward prior to taking the vote.

Quorum:

Quorum is 50% of the membership (trustees, parents and co-chairs) plus one. Should a quorum not be present to start the meeting, continuing or canceling is at the discretion of the co-chair(s). Trustees and parents will be considered members upon taking their seat at their first meeting.