



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: French Service Language Advisory Committee (FSLAC)

Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Time: 7pm

Present: Robin Pilkey (Trustee Co-Chair); Kristina Laperle, Parent Co-Chair (W17); Betheney Maheu, Parent Vice-Chair (W11, W13 Alt); Dina Pizolinas (W2); Michelle Minnot (W4); Lauralyn Johnston (W8); Matt Forest (W9); Rosemary Sutherland (W9 Alt); Sarah Warden (W10); Stephanie Rickard Chadda (W11); Sharon Kerr (W13, W21); Wilmar Kortleever (W13 Alt); Sharon Beason (W16); Kingsley Kwok (W20) ; Mary Cruden (Canadian Parents for French);

Teleconference: David Kim (W3); Suzanne Philips (W15); Cheryl Wilson (W19)

TDSB: John Tancredi (Central Co-ordinating Principal); Kirsten Johnston (Program Co-ordinator FSL)

Guests: Gail Miller (W21); June Griffith (W21); Randy Samuel (W17); Patrick Robinson (Davisville PS parent - Ward 11 /W14);

Recorder: Latha John (Committee Assistant)

| ITEM | DISCUSSION | RECOMMENDATION/MOTION |
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| 1. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions | Meeting called to order at 7:05pm. Chair Kristina Laperle welcomed everyone and introductions were done. | |
| 2. Approval of Quorum - Membership Review | Quorum was achieved. Membership Updates Steph Rickard Chadda is the new rep for W14 and alternate for W11. | |



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| <p>3. Approval of Agenda</p> | <p>***Motion: Rosemary Sutherland moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Lauralyn Johnston. Motion carried.</p> | |
| <p>4. Approval of Minutes</p> | <p>***Motion: Lauralyn Johnston moved to approve the May 19th minutes, seconded by Betheny Maheu. Motion carried.</p> | |
| <p>5. Chair's Report Annual Report to PSSC</p> | <p>Annual Report emailed to the committee and is attached to the minutes.</p> <p>***Motion Kingsley Kwok moved to send the Annual Report to PSSC, seconded by Betheny Maheu. Motion carried.</p> |  <p>2015 06 16 FSLAC Annual Report to PSS</p> <p>Action: Latha to forward the approved FSLAC Annual Report 2014- 2015 to PSSC.</p> |
| | <p>** Trustee Pilkey joined the meeting at 7:30 pm **</p> | |
| <p>6. Election Parent Co-chair and Vice Co-chairs for 2015-16</p> | <p>Kristina handed over the chair to Mary Cruden, a past co-chair of the FSLAC to run the election - members had the opportunity to nominate or self-nominate for the Parent Chair and two Parent Vice Co-Chair positions.</p> <p>Kristina Laperle self-nominated for Parent Co-Chair position and Matt Forrest and Betheny Maheu self-nominated for the two Parent Vice Co-Chair positions.</p> <p>The nominees were acclaimed.</p> <p>***Motion Rosemary Sutherland moved support of the 2015-2016 executive, seconded by Lauralyn Johnston. Motion carried unanimously.</p> | |
| <p>7. Staff Report Enrolment Report update</p> | <p>Enrolment Report</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p>Q: Why are students from Runnymede directed to Parkdale instead of George Syme?</p> <p>A: This year, there were many more applicants from George Syme's catchment and there was no space available for students from Runnymede.</p> <p>Q: What has been the impact of the redoing of the Runnymede boundaries?</p> <p>A: Runnymede is having local feasibility issues; redoing of the boundaries did not solve the</p> | |



problem. The current long-term accommodation plan at Runnymede is to remove the 7th and 8th grade from Runnymede. The board is looking to move all the 7/8 students to Annette or Western Tech.

Q: McMurrich JPS has seen its students' redirected to a new site for the third year in a row. Some of the redirects are leapfrogging other program schools. This is not a reasonable option for all kids. Is there a possibility for McMurrich to be a French immersion site?

A: McMurrich has a new gifted program and a private Japanese school in the building. There is no room for an SK to 6 French Immersion program.

Q: Has there been a shift in approach? Are the applicants in English catchment of a dual track school being given priority over applicants from feeder schools?

A: Decisions on redirects shift. One of the considerations in these decisions is to minimize transportation costs.

Q: If there are 20 applicants to FI from any given English school, what does it take to get an FI program started that kids can walk to?

A: TDSB is an English language school board and is legally required to take in kids who arrive in the neighbourhood to the English program. Students who choose to take Immersion/Extended French may be redirected.

Q: Are alternate configurations possible to consider local enrolment needs with regard to the distribution of the French program?

A: Winchester is a French Immersion centre from K-6, and also houses a regular program for Grades 7 and 8 as a dual track. When the Winchester ARC was happening, it was very challenging to find a solution that met the needs of both the regular program students and the French Immersion students. The Board is committed to French programs and the commitment can be seen with the participation of approximately 27,000 kids. The Board is always working on the quality of the program.

Q: Should there be a right to become bilingual in Canada?



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| | <p>A: The TDSB has established FSL programs that allow families to choose various levels of intensity of exposure to French as a Second Language and is committed to ensuring that each of those programs supports students in meeting their academic and language proficiency goals.</p> <p>Q: East York Collegiate: What is the status of the feasibility study being done on the Leaside High School/East York Collegiate?</p> <p>A: The ARC starts in October and as there are Immersion/Extended French programs at Leaside, they are likely to be part of the discussion.</p> <p>Q: Can the teacher assistant from SK be a part time assistant in Grade 1 to support the transition?</p> <p>A: There is no funding for this from the Ministry of Education. The cap returns in grade 1 to 20 students per class. Parent response: Class sizes should be recapped to at 20 /23 in JK and SK</p> <p>Status of Optional Attendance Review It is on hold for now. There are French concerns for the optional attendance; concerns around childcare, a lot of questions have been raised when more and more schools have been closed due to optional attendance. There will be public consultation; update will be presented to FSLAC. Opportunity for FSLAC representation before public consultation was requested by FSLAC.</p> <p>Including Students with Special Education Needs in French as a Second Language Programs New document titled “Including Students with Special Education Needs in French as a Second Language Programs” is available publicly from the Ministry of Education. John Tancredi and Mary Cruden are on the Provincial Working group for French as a Second Language which provided input to the new document.</p> | <p>Action Item: Kristina to request FSLAC representation on the Leaside/East York ARC through John.</p> <p>John will advise Kristina when status of optional attendance review changes.</p> |
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Centralised Immersion Information Nights

The number of instructional leaders has not increased though the number of SK sites has increased. Consideration is being given to changing from school by school information evenings to centralised information meetings. There are many more French Immersion and Extended French sites than there are central staff available to attend information meetings. Information nights at the school after placements are being considered. There is a plan to make a video presentation, increase live on-line chats, re-send FAQ's and talking points to principals. Training for the people delivering the information session may be necessary.

Discussion:

- When there is a big team of different principals, they have to have talking points to stay on message. Staff are working around the messaging when central staff is not available.
- Using a webinar at the meetings might reduce the amount of misinformation that comes out in the presentation and Q&A after. Eliminating Q&A sessions is not good, as there could be parents who have more specific questions.
- Parents prefer to go to local schools than to a centralised location. Hosting them in the pathway high school could work with high school students on hand to volunteer and talk about their FSL experiences. However, could also be very intimidating for parents of 3 year olds.
- There are still benefits of having info nights at the local school. At Elmlea the principal did an amazing job at the information night because she had the knowledge of the community, and was very inclusive. The school tour included the small gym with a display of students' school work, grade by grade, a demonstration French class with a teacher and students using a smart board and a visit to see what the FI kindergarten looks like and to meet the teachers. Parent council was on hand to welcome prospective parents and provide refreshments. Staff responded that a school visit could be held at the local school once the kids know their placement and then, the French instructional leaders might not be needed.
- It is important to keep track of attendance at the information nights



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| | <p>Additional Parent Comment: We appreciate the summer program at Brimwood, but if bussing were made available, more kids would go for the program.</p> <p>Staff John Tancerdi & Kristen Johnston thanked the FSLAC committee for the support and commitment to the French program.</p> | |
| <p>8. 8.FSLAC - Reflections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Practices & Goals for 2015-16 | <p>FSLAC Reflections</p> <p>Best practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong commitment from FSLAC to be involved in the processes of the board. • Timely response to Hall consultation (see appendix A), Margaret Wilson’s Report, involved the committee - Letters sent to Minister/Ministry of Education re: Wilson report, ARC guidelines, Hall consultation • Presentations at local schools and TDSB conferences • Survey of the Trustee Candidates helped make them more aware of FSLAC and FSL • New Into to the FSLAC powerpoint – presented at Ward 20 • Informative newsletter useful for parents and driving up numbers on the distribution list to over 750 parents (FSLAC thanked Mary Cruden) <p>Upcoming changes:</p> <p>Community Advisory Committees (CAC) review was completed and some changes are being implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Minutes template • Terms Of Reference (FSLAC’s Operational Guidelines) to be reviewed and expanded • Academic Workspace Website available to FSLAC <p>Feedback- Demands made on volunteers is not sustainable and increased staff support is needed from the Parent Involvement office.</p> | <p>Action: Mary will make sure Board Services admin person is on the newsletter distribution.</p> <p>Action: Kristina will send FSLAC response to Hall consultation to Trustees as they have informally requested</p> <p>Action: Kristina will get more details on process for Terms of Reference and an update will be presented to the FSLAC at the earliest opportunity.</p> |



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| | <p>Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get more support from Parent Involvement office • Be more proactive on items to be focused on the like PIAC ETF(Emergency Task Force) - have smaller working group, ie. High School Course selection • Influence on optional attendance: Daycare (before & afterschool) & bussing • Keep better track of attrition – School data needs to be mined for best practices in retention that can be replicated where attrition is high - Staff Response– Retention rates are measured, but not done school by school. • Help raise awareness of the new Special Education in FSL document from the Ministry through the newsletter. | |
| <p>9. Ward Reports</p> | <p>The following Ward Reports were provided:</p> <p>Ward 2- Richview CI STEM Conference it was fantastic</p> <p>Ward 4 –ward meeting focused on safety</p> <p>Ward 8 -Meeting of the parent council chairs, FSLAC accomplishment at the school board was updated at the meeting</p> <p>Ward 9- French visual arts and musical theatre camps will take place during the summer inChristie/Bloor area</p> <p>Ward 10- End of year party cancelled due to ‘work-to-rule’ job action. It has been rescheduled offsite by parents. Parents at Lord Landsdowne continuing efforts to establish greater parent involvement.</p> <p>Ward 11- Funfair</p> <p>Ward 16- Ward meeting at Gordon A Brown. Topics included: Physical Ed. curriculum, work-</p> | |



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| | to-rule. Storyteller class was well received. Ward 17- French presentation ‘Keeping up with French in Summer’ | |
| 10. Other Business | <p>Media Release June 16, 2015 - TDSB issuing report cards by July 13 by deploying Senior and central staff to local schools for additional assistance.</p> <p>Wrapping up 2015-2016: TDSB FSL staff thanked the FSLAC for its commitment and hard work. Special thanks to: Vanessa Kerr –for student voice at FSLAC; Sharon Kerr – for commitment and a strong parent voice at FSLAC; Kristina Laperle (Parent Chair Trustee), Robin Pilkey (Trustee Co-Chair) Betheney Maheu, (Parent Vice-Co-Chair), Mary Cruden (CPF/Community Member), Latha John (Committee Assistant), John Tancredi (Central Co-ordinating Principal) & Kirsten Johnston (Program Co-ordinator FSL).</p> | |
| 11. FSLAC dates for 2015-16 school year | September 24 , October 27, November 24 , 2015 | |
| 12. Next Meeting Date | September 24, 2015 | |
| 13. Adjournment | Meeting adjourned at 9:09: pm | |

