



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Name: French as a Second Language Advisory Committee

Date: September 20, 2016

Time: 7:00 pm

Present: Trustee Co-Chair Robin Pilkey; Parent Co -Chair Kristina Laperle (W17), Parent Vice- Co-chair Peggy Dufresne (W19), Parent Vice-Co-chair Matt Forrest (W9), Student Trustee Shams Mehdi, Mary Cruden (Canadian Parents for French), Rob Janes (W2), Wilmar Kortleever (W13), Sharon Beason (W16),

Teleconference: Sarah Warden (W10), Parent Vice-Co-chair Betheney Maheu (W13 Alt), Bronwyn Graves (W15 Alt)

TDSB Staff: Manon Gardner (Exec. Superintendent); John Tancredi (Central Co-ordinating Principal); Kirsten Johnston (Program Co-ordinator)

Guests: Doug Kwan (Millwood JPS), Joanne Azevedo-Vaz (Millwood JPS), George Vlahakis (Millwood JPS), Noam Kaufman (Bachelor of Education Teacher Candidate, Central Toronto Academy-formerly Central Commerce CI)

Recorder: Dawn Mugford-Guay

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION/ACTION
Call to Order/Quorum / Membership Review	Meeting was called to order by Chair Laperle at 7:06pm. Welcome and introductions followed, noted that this is FSLAC's 11th Anniversary Quorum was achieved. Membership changes: W5 rep Lena Angell and W14 rep Steph Chadda resigned; W11 is vacant and Betheney Maheu continues as W13Alt.	Dawn to update membership list.
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve agenda by Matt Forest, seconded by Peggy Dufresne. Carried	



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Approval of Minutes May 10, 2016	Motion to approve the minutes by Peggy Dufresne, seconded by Matt Forrest. Carried Request from Mary Cruden to imbed attachments to the posted minutes.	Dawn to post minutes to FSLAC webpage.
Guest: Millwood Parents, Ward 2	<p>PowerPoint Presentation (to be provided) - Doug Kwan, Joanne Azevedo-Vaz and George Vlahakis presented the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reviewed the current pathway for students, distance from Millwood/Broadacres (SK-5) is 11.5/12.5 km to Hilltop MS (grade 6-8) ▪ Students receive transportation however difficult for students to participate in before/after school programming ▪ Parents noted a high attrition rate from junior to middle school due to the distance ▪ Local Feasibility Team (LFT-TDSB staff and trustee) was convened to explore a local middle school option; recommendation to the Planning & Priorities Committees in Feb 2016 was to remain status quo. ▪ 12 New FI schools were created in 2012/13 with the greatest distance between feeders and FI school of approximately 4.2 km ▪ Creating a program at Bloordale MS would mean – transportation cost savings, improved learning opportunities as it could be housed with the Jr Extended French program at Briarcrest JPS, lower attrition rates as more Millwood students would continue to the middle school program, Bloordale MS would cease to be a school in danger as occupancy would increase (from 44% to 64% in 2025), Broadacres and Millwood students would join their regular stream neighbours ▪ Request made that FSLAC write to Director Malloy in support of a new LFT with different membership <p>Staff comments: -many TDSB students travel to get to school, including other French programs with comparable distances to Millwood/Hilltop: Broadlands/Windfields JH & Melody Village/Clairville/Elmlea -the distance between the junior school housing the FI program and the middle school pathway is one piece of information to consider; however, what must also be considered is the distance any</p>	Kristina to circulate powerpoint to FSLAC members.



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	<p>student needs to travel in order to get to their FI or EF program; in other words, there are students in FI and EF who live in the catchment areas of regular program schools who must leave their community to attend the junior school from K to 5 or K to 6 and then must travel even greater distances to attend the middle level and secondary level pathway school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -TDSB guarantees students a placement in a FI program (provided registration has occurred on time), not a particular school. Parents are advised of the pathway upon placement in the program. New sites are added when there are accommodation pressures. -currently, there isn't an accommodation issue at Hilltop -Islington JMS currently has immersion in K-Grade 2 but will add grades up to 8, potential for an added pathway in the future -LFT met in 2015 and 2016 and found that there was no need for a new FI middle school -Long-Term Program and Accommodation Strategy (LTPAS) is posted on the website with upcoming reviews. This is a yearly process and though a study is not currently planned, it may change due to shifts/requirements and will be discussed at the next round of consultation with Trustee, Staff from Teaching and Learning including French, Special Education. <p>FSLAC comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -all of Etobicoke is served by 2 middle schools (John English and Hilltop) which requires an abundance of bussing and inquired as to the possibility for redistribution. -the Board works on what is needed using the established accommodation process, and is not always able to do what is wanted <p>Trustee comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -concern raised that the FSLAC as an advisory committee to the Trustees might be overstepping by writing to the Director on this matter -advised that an LFT is an internal TDSB committee (Superintendents and Principals of affected schools, central program staff, Planning and local Trustee) and that the structure does not allow for external participants. 	
Chair's Report	Members were sent a link to the Google Docs to the Member Briefing book with documents	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Briefing Book/Google Docs Update • Communication Plan • Future Guest Speakers 	<p>relevant to work of FSLAC including updated results from Trustee Candidate Survey from by-elections (2 of 4 new trustees responded). Membership contact list is strictly for use within the committee, not to be shared. If you require a hard copy, please email Dawn: dawn.mugford-guay@tdsb.on.ca</p> <p>FSLAC newsletter to go out in early Dec -please submit your ideas for articles. Volunteer writers or editors always welcome. Review of upcoming meeting dates: due to a conflict, the October meeting has been changed to October 27. Meeting dates are posted at www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac</p> <p>Upcoming guest possibilities/topics: Colleen Russell-Rawlins (changes to requirement for Before/after school programs); French for the Future; Ruth Hall (virtual library and supports for French); Bronwyn – Historica Canada (provide free bilingual programming); Ontario Education Resource Bank, Learning Coaches (John/Kirstin to investigate), Gifted testing.</p>	
<p>Staff Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesigned Virtual Library • Professional Learning Plan 	<p>Video presentation of TDSB's Virtual Library - One stop shop for rich resources for parents, teachers, students. Virtual Library Learnmark provided and have been distributed to students through school teacher librarians.</p> <p>Approximately 125 new teacher hires with over 100 having French immersion/extended in their assignments. PD sessions for new teachers are continuing into October. Staff (principals, teachers etc.) will continue to work with the new document: Including Students with Special Education Needs in FSL. Teaching staff are focused on reading instruction (focus on the English side will be mirrored on the French side). Q: Previously sweated FSL funds of approximately \$500 000 was spent mainly on release time</p>	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Night Sessions 	<p>with PD delivered by 6 FSL Instructional Leaders who were funded otherwise. What's the plan now?</p> <p>A: \$, 324,000 is now allocated for salaries for two FSL coaches with bulk of remainder for release time. Learning Centres have 90 coaches, a few with FSL qualifications. This is a different way of working, while covering the needs of the system as a whole. Learning Coaches will be supporting schools within their Learning Centre assignment. The idea is to be more responsive to the system (grassroots). Principals work closely with Superintendents (approx. 20 schools as opposed to 30 last year) to develop goals reflecting the population of their schools.</p> <p>Research component - Coaches will be followed through their Learning Centres in order to track system impact.</p> <p>Q: Is there a plan to bring in more Principals/SOE's with French qualifications?</p> <p>A: Yes. Though it's not a must, it is definitely a plus to have FSL qualifications. Noted that when a FI school requires a new administrator, the Board tries to ensure that either the Principal or VP has the qualifications (advised of the Aspiring Leaders track for staff).</p> <p>Do the information meetings need to take place in every one of the 67 SKFI schools or can they be centrally located? No longer have enough Instructional Leaders to support principals who need it for SKFI information nights. Need to ensure consistent messaging on equity and inclusion, application process and the program. The online information night will be provided as it was last year, regardless of any changes.</p> <p>Options under consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Remain status quo and do what we can to support; 2) Cluster schools and hold the information session within one of the FI schools. Discussed with Communications the possibility of doing it on one specific night and video linking to all locations though it's not believed to have any added value (as well, 67 schools would have to agree on one night). 	<p>Motion to extend for 15 minutes – Approved</p>



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	<p>FSLAC comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - diversify with more than one medium; i.e., webinar with Q&A, live webcast, communicating information in multiple languages with a debrief webinar for parents. - Seeing inside the school is reassuring for parents of young children. Don't want to put enrolment as risk. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Parents for French Updates 	<p>Canadian Parents for French-Ontario info: http://on.cpf.ca/research-advocacy/advocacy/the-state-of-fsl-education-in-ontario/ On average, 5.7% annual growth rate in Ontario's FI program over the last 10 years. 274,579 students (14%) are doing more French than the Ministry requires (FI, Extended and Core Grades 10-12, 2014/15 ONSYS). Core French retention to grade 12 is about 7% while extended is 42% and immersion is 46% (an increase of 4% over the previous year).</p> <p>Commissioner of Official Languages Poll Results: http://www.ocol-clo.gc.ca/en/news/releases/2016/2016-08-31 84% support bilingualism for all of Canada 86% believe PM should be bilingual; 74% believe Cabinet Ministers should be bilingual; 81% believe Supreme Courts Judges should be bilingual From telephone results on Support for Second Official Language Education: 89% believe English and French should continue to be taught in all elementary schools across Canada; 84% believe more efforts should be made so that young people become bilingual and can speak in both English and French; 78% believe provincial governments should make more spaces available in immersion programs; 28% believe it is more useful for children in Canada to learn to speak other languages like Mandarin, or Arabic than it for them to learn to speak both official languages.</p>	





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	Ministry of Education has released an outstanding video to support inclusion of students with special education needs in FSL: http://www.curriculum.org/fsl/en/components/ed-talk-principal-to-principal/	
Ward Reports	Ward 2 - advised that he plans to visit the SAC of French schools. Ward 9 - noted the ongoing bussing issues Ward 10 - noted bussing issue and loss of VP Ward 17 – new Principal at Don Valley MS is fantastic Student Trustee - an Extended French Student, commented that a lot of focus is placed on Ext. and FI students while Core French students struggle and face issues; students feel FSL courses a burden due to the way it's taught as well as student interest/enjoyment.	
Other Business	PIAC Conference on November 19, 2016 at Earl Haig SS	Kristina and Peggy to provide support
Next Meeting Date	October 27, 2016 @ 7:00 pm	
Adjournment	9:15 pm Adjourned.	

