



**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Committee Name:** French-as-a-Second Language Advisory Committee

**Date:** January 10, 2017

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Parent Co -Chair Kristina Laperle (W17), Trustee Co-Chair Robin Pilkey; Parent Vice-Chair Peggy Dufresne (W19); Parent Vice-Chair Matt Forest (W9); Mary Cruden (Canadian Parents for French); Rob Janes (W2); Trustee Pamela Gough (W3); Melanie Amadasun (W3); Deloris Williamson-Braham (W5);Caroline Paterson (W7); Rosemary Sutherland (W9); Sarah Warden (W10); Wilmar Koortlever (W13); Sharon Beason (W16); Gail Miller (W21)

**Teleconference:** Alison MacAlpine (W14); Bronwyn Graves (W15, Alt); Debbie-Lynn Hoste (W22); Lisa MacAvoy (W3)

**TDSB Staff:** Manon Gardner (Executive Superintendent); Angela Caccamo (Central Co-ordinating Principal); John Tancredi (Central Co-ordinating Principal); Kirsten Johnston (FSL Co-ordinator)

**Recorder:** Linda Mendonca

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION /MOTION/ACTION
1. <b>Call to Order/Welcome &amp; Introductions (Kristina Laperle)</b>	<b>Call to Order:</b> Meeting was called to order by Chair Laperle 7:07 p.m. Welcome and introductions followed. Executive Superintendent Manon Gardner introduced Angela Caccamo (Central Co-ordinating Principal) who will be the replacement for John Tancredi (Central Co-ordinating Principal) as he retires this month.	
2. <b>Approval of Quorum/Membership Review (Peggy</b>	<b>Membership Review</b> Add: Melanie Amadasun (W3)	





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Dufresne)		
3. Approval of Agenda (Kristina Laperle)	*** <b>Motion:</b> Rosemary Sutherland, seconded by Wilmar Kortleever, moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried.	Linda to post agenda to FSLAC webpage.
4. Approval of Minutes November 27, 2016 (Kristina Laperle)	<p>***<b>Motion:</b> Peggy Dufresne, seconded by Wilmar Kortleever moved to approve the minutes from the meeting dated November 24, 2016 with the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Item #2, Membership Review, Add: David Kim (W3) to be removed from the membership list</li> <li>▪ Item #2, under Membership Review, correct spelling of names to read as follows: Deloris Williamson-<b>B</b>raham (W5), and Alison Mc<b>A</b>l<b>p</b>ine (W14)</li> </ul>	Linda to revise minutes and post to FSLAC webpage.
<p>5. Chair's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Upcoming Pupil Accommodation Reviews</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Communications Update</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Upcoming Pupil Accommodation Reviews</b> The FSLAC will be participating in 3 Pupil Accommodation Review Committees (PARC's); Rosemary (Richview), Caroline (Rockcliffe), and Peggy (Guildwood). Rosemary, Caroline, and Peggy will need the details for the PARC meetings including dates/times/locations.</p> <p><b>Communications Update</b> -FSLAC newsletter was sent out in December. A special thanks to Sarah and Nancy White for contributing to the newsletter. TDSB Virtual Library was featured. <a href="http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/FSLAC%20Newsletter-Dec%202016.pdf">http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/FSLAC%20Newsletter-Dec%202016.pdf</a> -for future issues, looking to improve look with graphics, currently using MailChimp, exploring possible use of Emma, the program trustees use for newsletters - next newsletter is going out in March. Feedback and input welcome.</p>	<p>Manon will forward dates to Linda to forward to Rosemary, Caroline, and Peggy.</p> <p>Robin will send an e-mail to the communications department and report back.</p>
6. Staff Report	<p><b>Program Application and Registration System (PARS)</b> - PARS opened for Junior Extended French on January 9, 2017 and closes February 2, 2017. Early French Immersion deadline was December 1, 2016.</p> <p>- 3800 applications were received for SK French Immersion</p>	





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<p><b>System (PARS) Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Gifted Testing &amp; ESL Students in Immersion</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Alternative Education &amp; FSL – Why not more choices?</b></li> </ul>	<p>- 2900 families have had an offer of placement            -redirections are being considered but have not yet been offered            -a few schools will be in a lottery position, goal is to have all lotteries done in January            -three new sites are confirmed for September 2017: Secord, Ernest and Ellesmere-Statton            -one other new site is under consideration as well as adding classes in the west at existing locations.            -late applicants will be placed if there are unfilled spots</p> <p><b>Q.</b> I live in an area where a lot of people would like to do French Immersion, but it's a bit of a drive for them so they opt not to apply. These people who don't apply to French Immersion are invisible to you. They would like French if it were closer. Is there a way to capture the numbers of those that do not apply?</p> <p><b>A.</b> Currently, there is no way to capture interest or to address it by opening new sites other than by actual applications. There are areas of the city where the distances are much greater with very big catchments. It's a struggle and we keep an eye on it. We provide transportation where required. PR597 sets out steps that we follow.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> Do we keep track of people that go out to open houses?</p> <p><b>A.</b> We do track that information from the Virtual sessions. Attendance at open houses varies depending on the community's familiarity with the site, how many potential applicants have older siblings in the program and many other factors.</p> <p><b>Gifted Testing and ESL Students in Immersion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all TDSB grade 3 students are being screened for gifted for the first time this year</li> <li>• Initial screening is done in December to identify potentially gifted students, followed by more specific testing to identify which students qualify as gifted. Families will be informed of the results</li> <li>• gifted testing is typically done in English, including English language learners. Additional</li> </ul>	<p>Manon will provide an update regarding Gifted Testing and ESL Students in Immersion at next meeting.</p>





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	<p>language support is available to English language learners during the testing process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>we will only track the numbers of students that have accepted a placement</li> </ul> <p><b>Alternative Education &amp; FSL – Why Not More Choices?</b></p> <p><b>Q.</b> Why is there only one Alternative School with more French; i.e. Hawthorne Bilingual School.?</p> <p><b>A.</b> All alternative elementary schools come from parents’ proposals, and none of them focus on French. Some of their foci include outdoor education, science, etc., and many of them are located downtown. Currently, there are 6 in the proposal stage.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> Is the TDSB still opening alternative schools?</p> <p><b>A.</b> The on-going review will help the Board decide next steps. The staff report will be prepared to go to the Board of Trustees in June. There are many considerations before opening any school or any program: budget, location, staffing, viability, etc...</p> <p><b>Q.</b> For some students who have anxiety and mental health issues; there are no French Immersion Alternative Schools and no secondary FI sites open to optional attendance where the choice might be possible of semester over full year.</p> <p><b>A.</b> We need to give students choices to meet their needs. Some schools do a Hybrid Model rather than all semester or all full year. The secondary review is currently consulting with students as to what’s preferable (semester or not, which ones are French or not? etc.) Results will be shared in a staff report.</p> <p><b>Professional Learning &amp; Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>deferred to next meeting</li> </ul>	
7. Ward Reports	Ward Reports	





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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ deferred to next meeting</li> </ul> <p><b>Trustee Gough (W3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- City – Occupancy Grant for on-site daycares part of city budget – not related to French Immersion directly but of interest to parents, watch for information next Thursday</li> <li>- Hired a Pizza Chef to make pizza with the kids at ward meeting.</li> </ul>	
<b>8. Other Business</b>	<p><b>Retirement of John Tancredi (Central Co-ordinating Principal)</b>            The FSLAC thanked John Tancredi for his help and support of the FSLAC over the years. Angela Caccamo (Central Co-ordinating Principal) will be John’s replacement to the FSLAC.</p> <p>Other Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jennifer Story’s motion to review FDK (Oct. 26, 2016 Board minutes) and before/after school care. On-going issue for SKFI parents, particularly for bussed students in accessing before and after school care</li> <li>▪ Next Week – Program and Schools Services Committee (PSSC) – Executive Superintendent Colleen Russell-Rawlins to report on Regulatory Changes to Before and After – School Programs</li> <li>▪ Board asked the Director to report on “The Right of Parents to know about and how to access special education support” (Nov 23, 2016 Board minutes)-How will French be included, particularly FI in primary? (deferred to next meeting)</li> </ul>	
<b>9. Adjournment</b>	Adjourned at 8:51 pm.	
<b>10. Next Meeting February 28, 2017</b>		

