



# Community Advisory Committees

**Name of Committee:** French as a Second Language Community Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** 8 June 2021

A meeting of the French as a Second Language Community Advisory Committee convened from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm via virtual Zoom meeting, with Parent Co-Chair Lynne LeBlanc presiding.

<b>Attendance:</b>	Lynne LeBlanc (Parent Co-Chair W8), Lisa McAvoy (Parent Vice-Co-Chair W2), Sharlene Henry (Parent Vice-Co-Chair W5/W6 Alt), Matt Forrest (Parent Vice-Co-Chair W9), Doug Kwan (W2 Alt), Mandy Moore (W7), Geordie Sabbagh (W8 Alt), Wilmar Kortleever (W11 Alt), Randy Samuel (W14), Gail Miller (W22) Also present were: Trustee Rachel Chernos Lin (Trustee Co-Chair W11), Trustee Robin Pilkey (W7), Trustee Dan MacLean (W2), Mary Cruden (Canadian Parents for French), Sharon Beason (CPF Alt), Curtis Ennis (Interim Associate Director), Angela Caccamo (Centrally Assigned Principal), Linda Edwards (Centrally Assigned Principal, Virtual French Programs), Kirsten Johnston (Program Co-ordinator), Michelle Munroe (Parent Engagement)
<b>Guests:</b>	Elaine (Parent), Favour Aina, Juanita
<b>Regrets:</b>	Charles Zhu (Parent Vice-Co Chair W11), Deloris Williamson-Braham (W5/13), Crystal Stewart (W6), Caroline Tolten-Paterson (W7 Alt), Polina Osmerkina (W10), Hans Bathija (W10 Alt), Sarah Smith (W15), Kathleen Meek (W15 Alt), Christie Dunbar (W16), Nancy White (W16 Alt), Rosemary Sutherland (CPF Alt)
<b>Recorder:</b>	Linda Stockdale

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION / MOTION / ACTION
<b>Call to Order / Quorum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land acknowledgment – Lynne Leblanc</li> <li>• Introduction of Participants. Meeting recorded for minute taking purposes.</li> <li>• Quorum achieved 7:10 pm</li> </ul>	
<b>Membership Changes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moved by Doug, seconded by Randy. Carried.</li> </ul>	
<b>Approval of May 2021 Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change regarding Item 7, 3yr FSL plan, remove “filed with the M of E”</li> <li>• With change, moved by Randy, seconded by Gail. Carried.</li> </ul>	Linda to post on <a href="https://tdsb.on.ca/fslac">tdsb.on.ca/fslac</a>
<b>Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interests</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wilmar Kortleever is a W11 parent and FSLAC alternate and is also employed by the TDSB as a Shared Services Liaison, a casual position in which he supports the Board and Trustees, e.g., by helping organize and taking minutes at public meetings.</li> <li>• Randy Samuel is a supply for a Lunchroom Supervisor at the Board.</li> </ul>	
AGM	<p><b><u>Election of 2021-22 Executive</u></b>  Self-nomination from Lynne. Lynne is acclaimed as Parent Co-chair for next year 2021-22. Charles, Lisa and Sharlene self-nominated and acclaimed as Vice-Co-chairs for 2021-22. Matt makes the motion, seconded by Randy. No one opposed. Carried.</p>	
AGM	<p><b><u>Approval of 2020-21 FSLAC Annual Report</u></b>  Lynne presented the draft version. Typo. 5<sup>th</sup> page, under Core Fr. Action plan, extra ‘who’ to be removed.  With change, moved by Randy, seconded by Doug. No one opposed. Carried.</p>	
AGM	<p><b><u>Appointment of Non-voting Community Member CPF (2-year term)</u></b>  Lynne shared bios for Mary, Rosemary and Sharon.  Matt makes the motion to appoint Mary as the member and Rosemary and Sharon as alternates, seconded by Lisa. No one opposed. Carried.  Service recognition: Committee thanked Wilmar for 9 years of parent volunteer service. His son is graduating from Grade 12. Lynne (socially distanced) and Sharlene (virtually) presented Wilmar with a framed certificate earlier in the day. Committee thanked Matt for volunteering as parent vice-co-chair for the past 2 years.</p>	

<p><b>6. Staff Update:</b> <b>Angela</b></p>	<p><b><u>Annual Enrolment Report 2021-22</u></b></p> <p>The Annual Enrolment Report has enrolment numbers for Core, Extended and Immersion French programs and the application and placement numbers for French programs for entry to SKFI (70 sites), new Middle French Immersion MFI (40 sites), GR 7 late entry Extended, and 1 intensive extended French at Cosburn. The appendix details the number of applicants, accepted placements, feeder schools, siblings, redirections, etc. The report is being shared at the Program and School Services Committee on June 9, 2021:  <a href="https://tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes/Type/A?Folder=Agenda%2f20210609&amp;Filename=8.pdf">https://tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes/Type/A?Folder=Agenda%2f20210609&amp;Filename=8.pdf</a></p> <p>Due to the challenges since Mar 2020, application numbers decreased this year in all Learning Centres. At least one class will open in all MFI sites next school year, with no redirection required. Registration dates were extended until February to allow for late applicants. While some MFI class sizes are small at this time, September re-alignment and Virtual School/Bricks &amp; Mortar Selection Forms from parents will have an impact on final class sizes.</p> <p>Combined classes (MFI/GR5 Extended) are not an option. As MFI is only in its first year (blue bar highlights in report), no historical data is provided. Suggestion of an asterisk/footnote to assist with readability was offered: data from years prior to 2021 is from the Junior Extended French program, not MFI.</p> <p>At this time, if parents decline placement, the reason is not prompted/captured. Staff will look at capturing this information noting that annually 93/94% of applicants are offered their designated FI school. Redirection represents 6/7% of annual placement offers.</p> <p>Comments: the percentage of redirects has stayed fairly stable. Why? Is it busing, day care availability, that results in a decline of offer? Staff suggests that there are varied reasons. Some applicants to Brown, with one intake class, were redirected to Humewood for September 2021 – capacity for each has evened out; Palmerston students redirected to Dewson, yet capacity and usage at the school not much different so questions the reason for moving the students. To gain French/English balance-- is this turning dual viable school(s) into an unviable school(s)?</p>	
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	<p>It would be helpful to see enrolment numbers as a percentage of eligible enrolment to help gauge retention until GR12 and year over year growth related to the change in the number of potential applicants in that entry year.</p>	
<p><b>7. Staff Update: Angela/Curtis</b></p>	<p><b><u>French Review (FSLAC motion 1 Underserved Areas)</u></b>  Motion 1, included in May PSSC Summary Report, strives for better accessibility to French Programs in historically underserved areas. In answer to this, 4 new Early French Immersion locations will be announced prior to the November application period. As well, staff are working actively on Pathway changes for two middle school boundaries (one in East, one in the West) such that these changes can be communicated to communities in early fall. Largest catchments have been prioritized with particular attention to Scarborough. Details are being reviewed with Trustees and local Principals at this time. Staff indicate that information can be provided to FSLAC for the first meeting in September, once the catchments have been created. If information can be released sooner, it will be. Staff priorities at this time are Early FI sites and MS Pathways so that change can be implemented for Sept 2022. The Secondary Review is also being worked on, which is not in isolation of this, thus resulting in a very complex project.</p>	
<p><b>8. Staff Update: Angela</b></p>	<p><b><u>Procedures: Return to French Programs, Pandemic Response</u></b>  Staff sent out a return to French survey in January 2021 to offer the opportunity to return to Extended/Immersion French programs for students who left between September – December 2020. In addition, the 2020 waitlists, held at some schools, will be maintained and spots offered if space is available until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in accordance with PR597. Staff will do their best to be flexible, show professional judgement, compassion, given the challenges of the past year. Professional judgement includes compassion and acknowledges context and is part of PR597 already.</p> <p>Communication has gone out to the Principals regarding the case where students change their minds regarding English/French programming, in September.</p> <p>The results of the system wide Selection Form going to families in August will generate data for local schools and then staff will see how many students select virtual learning and can make decisions on the delivery of virtual French programming. September will be designed around Selection Form responses. In the meantime, all VS students are being returned to their OSR school.</p>	

	<p>Comment: While an August return of the Selection Form will make it tight for planning, families need as much time as possible to decide, as the vaccine strategy/information is changing constantly.</p>	
<p><b>9. Staff Update:</b> <b>Angela/Curtis</b></p>	<p><b><u>Supporting Re-engagement for students 2021/22</u></b></p> <p>Staff acknowledges that this past 16 months has been very stressful for staff, students, and parents. We will try to be flexible to ensure safety of students. Staff will welcome all students back to French in their chosen program, support them in their continued progress and continue supporting inclusion of all students, including ESL. We are planning for professional learning to assist teachers with working with students in a compassionate way while building students’ proficiency and confidence in French programs.</p> <p>Questions and comments: Can extra funds be allocated to the Fall to assist across the Board?</p> <p>Associate Director Curtis Ennis has not heard of anything like this. We are offering multiple summer school programs and credits in French. Elementary summer school programs are full for English and French. Staff will follow up with status of the French secondary offerings.</p> <p>Mayor Tory announced today that there are FI summer programs being offered by the City.</p>	
<p><b>10. Staff Update</b> <b>Angela/Kirsten/Linda</b></p>	<p><b><u>Communication Strategies, signs at schools for French Registration</u></b></p> <p>Staff indicates we have an extensive digital and print media campaign planned to support November 2021 registration to the double cohort JK/SK EFI year which is in Sept 2022. Bilingual school banners will be at all elementary school sites and messaging for elementary school principals is being created regarding placement. Virtual information sessions are being planned. Targeted information brochure will be translated into 22 languages. A short, targeted communication is being developed for a Trustee blast to their wards in September. Staff reaching out as far as possible, working with EarlyON centres, with TDSB social media staff and we will share the communications with the FSLAC as soon as possible, so that Membership may share.</p>	

<p><b>11. Staff Update:</b> <b>Angela</b></p>	<p><b><u>Placement procedure- Double cohort year 2022/2023</u></b></p> <p>All on-time JK/SK applicants will be offered placement based on procedure PR597. Planning numbers indicate room for at least a JK and an SK class in each current SKFI school. Brown, for example has 1 class currently, but for the double cohort year, staff are planning for a JKFI class and an SKFI class. If either class becomes full, the procedure will be used. Balance of French and English will continue to be addressed, as approved in the LTPAS by the Trustees. It is expected that the Enrolment report will be more complex and there are likely to be more redirections than usually required.</p> <p>Trustee Pilkey shares that we need to be very clear to parents upfront about redirection potential, especially those new to the system.</p> <p>Comments: PR597 indicates 2 intake classes are required to guarantee the strength of the program. The requirement of balance is noted but a definition of this is not included. For a school with no feeders--balance may look different. If 100% of a cohort selects French, a community may want a French Immersion Centre.</p> <p>Staff acknowledge that viable 2-cohort in PR597 is likely an area that needs to be reviewed given equity of access requirements. Programs can be viable in 1 class sites, where retention and inclusion are supported.</p>	
<p><b>Ward/CPF Reports</b></p>	<p><b>W2</b>, e.g., Millwood parents, are strongly against the hybrid model. Millwood is sending a letter to the Ministry requesting funding for virtual school. Others share the same sentiment.</p> <p>Parents and teachers do not want cameras in the classrooms...no to the hybrid model. Loves the Millwood FI program.</p> <p><b>W11</b> – attended ward coffee morning with Trustee Chernos Lin and next week there is a Ward Forum about planning for September. Hears little about the French programming other than a lot of parents very happy we have French programming right now.</p> <p><b>W14</b> – shares knowledge of students in FI, and that they are doing great/well. Most are happy, while IB parents are very disappointed. Randy thanked CPF for free memberships and virtual after school French programs.</p> <p><b>CPF Report</b> – Annual Concours d’art oratoire was virtual, student from SATEC earned second place with the topic: Isolation – speeches at Concours are always moving. Hopefully in person next year. Thanks for the help from the TDSB.</p>	

	<p>During the Pandemic, secondary core and immersion teachers reviewed current FSL texts studied by students and sought out new texts to help make FSL classrooms more inclusive. They created @DisruptTextsFSL (twitter) and a google website which were presented at the Ontario Modern Language Teachers' Association (OMLTA) Spring Conference.</p> <p>Camerise is new Federal Gov't funded project with professors at Glendon and teachers across Ontario, to strengthen French second language. It will be an FSL Hub for families, educators, Trustees and stakeholders. Ideas Incubator, coming up this weekend.  <a href="https://www.yorku.ca/glendon/2021/04/23/camerise/">https://www.yorku.ca/glendon/2021/04/23/camerise/</a></p> <p>Kudos to Rosemary Sutherland who has been extremely busy creating and facilitating virtual FSL fun events for kids after school/ school breaks during the Pandemic.</p>	
<b>Other Business</b>	Nil	,
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm. Carried by Randy, seconded by Robin.	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	September 14, 2021 at 7pm, Virtual Meeting	