



Minutes

The Minutes of the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre.

PRESENT:

Trustees/Members	Linda Ainsworth, Adam White, Lynne Milette-Carroll, Virginia Marini, Meaghan Tahon, Marie-Claude Caron Charette, Nancy Guillemette, Anne Normand, Juliet Fullerton
Administration	Dawn Michie, Sharon Lajoie
Absent/Regrets	Aniela d'Avernas, Mark Joly
Recorder	Joanne Friar

A. Call to Order:

1. Welcome

Dawn Michie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Opening Prayer

Lynne Milette-Carroll led the opening prayer.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Lynne Milette-Carroll, seconded by Nancy Guillemette
that the Agenda be approved.

Carried

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 16, 2016

MOTION: Moved by Adam White, seconded by Nancy Guillemette
that the Minutes of the Meeting of November 16, 2016 be
approved.

Carried

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

B. Discussion/Presentations:

1. FSL Framework – 3 Year Plan – post survey

The Board is currently in year 3 of the plan. A progress report is to be submitted to the Ministry by June 9, 2017 on the work in years 1 to 3. The committee members were asked to discuss in groups potential direction for the next 3 year plan which is due to the Ministry in the Fall of 2017.

Group discussion comments included:

- the potential for survey fatigue at this time in the school year
- for the reporting purposes of the plan get a sense of whether student confidence has changed based on anecdotal comments from the teachers (when they are attending the PA day on April 28)
- expand on the confidence questions in the survey to reflect how confidently students feel they can communicate using basic language functions
- the importance of Networking Days
- want to continue with collaborative inquiries, would like to include the principal
- more collaborative inquiries involving both elementary and secondary schools
- polling students in either grade 10 or 11 who aren't continuing with French to determine why
- polling students who are continuing with French to see how they were able to make it work
- provide opportunities for presentations by guest speakers who can talk about ways French has benefitted them in their careers and personal lives, possibly ask graduates to speak to students

Sharon Lajoie, Meaghan Tahon and Anne Normand will work on a draft of a survey to potentially be sent out in the Fall. This will be shared at the April 28th Networking Day.

2. Smoothing the Transition Between Gr. 8 and Gr. 9 Core French

Anne Normand spoke to the benefit that collaborative inquiries between elementary and secondary panels have in easing the transition for students who are starting secondary school.

It is also valuable for the secondary teachers to see what the elementary students are being taught and gives them an opportunity to provide guidance on what type of learning is going to assist the students in making the transition successful. The wide variety of learning that is taking place in elementary schools in French was noted.

More discussion will take place on the April 28th Networking Day on how collaborative inquires could assist with unifying the learning.

C. Information Items:

1. Small Scale Initiatives Grant

School Boards are invited to submit proposals in three areas:

- Homework Support for Students in FSL
- French Extended Learning Experiences for Students in FSL
- Classroom Resources for New FSL Classes/Courses

There is no limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted. The deadline for submissions is June 26, 2017. Sharon Lajoie will be sending out a memo with more details on this initiative.

The Ministry will notify schools boards in September 2017 of successful proposals.

2. Professional Learning for Core French Teachers and French Immersion Teachers this year

The following professional learning took place in 2017-18:

- French Immersion collaborative inquiries took place in 6 elementary schools
- St. Stephen Family of Schools Grade 8 and 9 teachers participated in Student Engagement and Well-being training
- 4 French Immersion teachers participated in a Barrie Region – CEFR C.I.
- 3 days of professional learning and networking for Core French teachers
- participation in OMLTA and ACPI conferences, provincial web-conferences and provincial CEFR web-conferences

3. DELF Update

The Board has 26 students working toward writing the DELF this year. The exam will take place at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School on May 8, 9 and 10.

4. Voilà Learning Update

Student usage for this homework website was discussed, noting that it was used by 92 students at least twice a week in our Board from October 2016 to January 2017.

Further discussion will take place on the value of the program.

5. Enriched School Environment Activities

Sharon Lajoie provided a list of the types of activities that the Enriched School Environment Grant was used for this year.

The Cultural Activities Committee, including Meaghan Tahon, Sharon Lajoie and Lisa Heitzner, worked together to create a resource which provides information for many areas such as day trips, exchanges, restaurants, teacher-driven activities, etc. The FSLAC members commended the Cultural Activities committee members for their extensive work on compiling this resource.

The resource will be shared at the April 28th Networking Day.

6. Festival d'art oratoire – NEW Impromptu category

This year the Festival d'art oratoire took place at St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Bowmanville with 23 speeches given.

A new impromptu category was added this year based on the DELF process. Two students from Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School took part and one of these students will compete at the provincial level.

More impromptu opportunities will be explored for next school year.

7. OMLTA Association Awards

Anne Normand was congratulated by committee members for being the recipient of this year's OMLTA/AOPLV Award for excellence in leadership and teaching French as a Second Language.

Anne was presented with the award at the OMLTA conference on April 1, 2017.

8. New Teachers

The recruitment process for French teachers was discussed.

It was suggested that a member of the Human Resources Department and the NTIP consultant be invited to speak to the matter at November's committee meeting.

D. Next Year's Committee Dates:

1. a. Wednesday, November 22, 2017 – 4:30 p.m.
Opening Prayer – Adam White
Closing Prayer – Linda Ainsworth
- b. Wednesday, April 11, 2018 – 4:30 p.m.

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Anne Normand.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Nancy Guillemette, seconded by Meaghan Tahon
that the meeting adjourn – 6:25 p.m.

Carried