

Minutes

The Minutes of the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. virtually through Google Meet.

PRESENT:

Trustees/Members: Julia Greco, Stacey Sambrook, Bridget Cork, Elena Shaughnessy, Alan Morin, Lynne Milette-Carroll, Abbey Shaughnessy, Linda Ainsworth

Administration: Joan Carragher, Sheila Piggott, Adam White, Erin O'Sullivan

Absent/Regrets: Aniela d'Avernas, Mark Joly, Nancy Guillemette,

Recorder: Amy Balas

A. Call to Order:

1. Territorial Recognition

Adam White acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe.

2. Opening Prayer

Adam White led the opening prayer.

3. Welcome & Introductions

Sheila Piggott welcomed the committee. There was a roundtable of introductions as this was the first meeting Sheila attended as the newly appointed Superintendent of Learning.

4. Approval of the Agenda / Additions to the Agenda

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

Carried

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 25, 2020

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

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Discussion/Presentations:

1. Highlights from 3 Year Plan Report

Adam White

Adam White shared the 3 year FSL plan report that he submitted to the Ministry. The report provided an overview on how well the Board has done in achieving each goal over the last 3 years. Overall the Board either reached the projected goal or showed positive improvement. The goals included increasing teacher confidence in FSL, increasing students studying French throughout the Board and setting a target for the number of students who challenged the DELF. An area that keeps evolving is continued outreach and connection to parents around French programming as well as activities taking place throughout our schools. Adam also shared that cultural funding was greatly impacted by the pandemic however he is working with the schools to find ways to use that funding.

2. FSL Program Review - Thought Exchange Results

Sheila Piggott

Sheila Piggott shared results of the recent thought exchange survey that was sent out to Board employees, students and parents. There were 741 participants who shared over 500 thoughts which provided the Board with great information for developing future French programming and initiatives. The committee looked at the big ideas and trends that appeared in responses.

2a. Committee Discussion

Lynne Milette-Carroll and Alan Morin touched on teacher collaboration and shared their recent experiences with virtual presentations from colleges/universities as well as between PVNC's secondary and elementary schools promoting French pathways.

Action Committee proposed doing more of these virtual presentations between schools to help educate and encourage French pathways. Sheila Piggott will reach out to some secondary schools to see if this would be possible over the next two months.

3. Strategic Priorities

Joan Carragher

Joan Carragher and Erin O'Sullivan joined the committee meeting to share a high level view of the Board's developing Strategic priorities. Joan reviewed the Boards current 3 pillars; Learn, Lead, Serve and asked the committee for their thoughts and how each pillar resonates with the Boards French programming.

C. Information Items:

1. Student Voice Update

Abbey Shaughnessy/Julia Greco

Julia Greco shared that she has been enjoying her year despite the shift to online learning. She has improved her confidence and skill in oral speaking.

Abbey Shaughnessy discussed how a lot of students enjoy the Jusqu'au bout resource as it is very interactive and helps build confidence in learning and speaking the language. Abbey also shared that several students were upset about the cancellation of the DELF however understood the Boards decision. Abbey informed the committee this was her last meeting as she would be graduating. Adam thanked Abbey for her time on the committee and her valuable contribution.

2. DELF Update – Test & Correctors

Adam White

Adam discussed the DELF and shared some student and parent feedback on the cancellation. Although there was the option of students taking the DELF at Alliance Française in Toronto, all sessions have now been cancelled until at least September. Adam was keeping a list of students who wanted to receive updates about any options the Board may be able to provide.

Adam also discussed DELF correctors, mentioning that we have recertified 7 correctors this year. The committee is hoping to encourage more teachers to get their corrector certification with a focus on current gaps in certain teacher groups.

D. Next Committee Meeting:

1. Wednesday, November 2021, 4:30 p.m. – Google Meet
2. Selection of member for Opening Prayer for April 21, 2021 – Aniela d'Avernas
3. Selection of member for Closing Prayer for April 21, 2021 – Linda Ainsworth

E. Conclusion

1. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Elena Shaughnessy.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Adam White and seconded by Alan Morin that the meeting adjourned –
6:11 p.m.

Carried