



Minutes

The Minutes of the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. in the Seminar Room at the Catholic Education Centre.

PRESENT:

Trustees/Members	Aniela d'Avernas, Marie-Claude Caron Charette, Christine Aquin, Lynne Milette-Carroll, Elena Shaughnessy, Alan Morin, Suzanne Lavoie, Abbey Shaughnessy, Alyssa Robinson, Abigail Chambers, Mark Joly
Administration	Dawn Michie, Adam White
Absent/Regrets	Helen McCarthy, Nancy Guillemette, Donna Paquette
Recorder	Joanne Friar

A. Call to Order:

1. Welcome

Dawn Michie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Territorial Recognition

Dawn Michie acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishnabe.

3. Opening Prayer

Marie-Claude Caron Charette led the opening prayer.

4. Approval of the Agenda

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

Carried

5. Additions to the Agenda

Alyssa Robinson requested that Feedback from Students be added to the agenda.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 21, 2018

MOTION: Moved by Alan Morin, seconded by Aniela d'Avernas
that the Minutes of the Meeting of November 21, 2018 be approved.

Carried

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

Adam White reported that the French Immersion Principals Meeting scheduled for March 21, 2019, has been postponed until later in the school year.

B. Discussion/Presentations:

1. Administrative Procedure - Updating

Administrative Procedure 821 – French Immersion was distributed to all committee members for review and input. Discussion took place and a number of suggestions were brought forward for consideration.

Adam White will update the Administrative Procedure using the new format and bring it back to the committee members for a final review before it moves on to the wider consultation process.

2. Secondary Course Options

Discussion took place considering if the French Immersion and Core French courses currently being offered meet the needs of students now, and will continue to do so over the next 5 to 10 years. The importance of continuing to provide options for students who are exempted from French in elementary school was noted, as well as meeting the needs of students who are on the college and workplace paths. Multiple grades within one classroom was identified as not ideal.

3. FSL Direction – 2018-2023

Adam White distributed the Strategic Directions for the CEFR in Ontario (2018-23) for committee members' information. This information will be used when developing the FSL 3 year plan.

4. Feedback from Schools

Abigail Chambers and Alyssa Robinson, students at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School, spoke with students at their school who have taken one or more of the following courses: Grade 9 Core French, Grade 10 French Immersion or Grade 11 French Immersion asking about their experiences with French. Highlights of the feedback provided included:

Reasons the students would continue taking French:

- “Why Not?”
- ability to communicate with others when travelling
- French education looks good on a resume
- advantage in communication
- more employment opportunities
- fun – like to continue to take classes with people they know
- like to speak French, would like to graduate with a certificate
- makes it easier to learn other languages, understand other cultures

Reasons why they wouldn't continue in French courses:

- negative elementary school experience
- they don't feel that French will be needed in their career
- classes are too hard

Abbey Shaughnessy, a student at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, also spoke to students at her school and provided the following highlights of those conversations:

- students at Holy Cross are becoming more enthusiastic about taking French courses through to Grade 12, especially with the option of the DELF now.
- students had felt frustrated by having to take French in a Grade 10-11-12 combined class. Students are happier now that there is a Grade 10 section and an 11-12 combined.

C. Information Items:

1. DELF Update

94 students have signed up to challenge this year's DELF. This far exceeds this year's goal of 35. There are 39 students from the Core French program and 55 from French Immersion. There is representation from all of the Board's schools. The DELF will be held at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School and Adam White is working on the scheduling.

Discussion took place on the need for more correcteur training. The Board currently has 18 correcteurs with 2 more currently being trained. Options for additional training are being investigated.

2. Festival D'art Oratoire

This year all students in the speaking contest will be participating in the Impromptu category. This gives students the opportunity to use the language in the way they know how. Students who have too many hours for the Core French category, but not enough for the French Immersion, will be entered into the Extended Hours category. Students at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School will have the opportunity to participate in a secondary competition. It is hoped that this can be expanded to

additional secondary schools in the Board in the future.

3. Grants for Next Year

Adam White noted that details on this year's FSL funding weren't released until December 21, 2018, due to the change in government and also because we had reached the end of our federal French agreement. This year's funding included: \$66,040 for teacher support and professional development; \$14,795 for Enriched School Environments; \$9,039 to assist in setting up new classrooms and \$10,000 for DELF.

4. OMLTA Participation

7 new teachers from the Board attended the Ontario Modern Language Teacher's Association Spring conference in Toronto. Information from the workshops the teachers attended will be shared with other teachers in the system.

5. PD Updates

Almost all of the Grade 1 to 8 teachers have participated in an in-service at the Board this year. There are 2 professional development sessions planned for Kindergarten teachers in April. Collaborative Inquiries have taken place at Good Shepherd Catholic Elementary School as well as St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Bowmanville. Secondary French teachers will also be brought together for the PA Day this Friday to discuss developing authentic assessment tasks that align with the principles of the CEFR.

Professional Development opportunities for next year were discussed. Alan Morin requested opportunities for teachers to network with other teachers through classroom visits. Abigail Chambers and Abbey Shaughnessy supported the idea of better transition opportunities for Grade 8 students to see what a Grade 9 French class looks like.

D. Next Committee Meeting Dates:

1. Wednesday, November 20, 2019 – 4:30 p.m., Seminar Room, Catholic Education Centre
2. Wednesday, April 15, 2020 – 4:30 p.m., Seminar Room, Catholic Education Centre
3. Opening Prayer for November 20, 2019 Meeting – Alan Morin
4. Closing Prayer for November 20, 2019 Meeting – Mark Joly

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Lynne Milette-Carroll.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Lynne Milette-Carroll, seconded by Aniela d'Avernas
that the meeting adjourn – 6:23 p.m.

Carried