



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING held on Wednesday April 15, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. Virtually through teleconference.

PRESENT:

Trustees/Members	Helen McCarthy, Michelle Griepsma, Abbey Shaughnessy, Abigail Chambers, Alan Morin, Aniela D’Avernas, Christine Aquin, Elena Shaughnessy, Lynne Milette-Caroll, Marie-Claude Caron-Charette, Mark Joly, Nancy Guillemette
Administration	Stephen O’Sullivan, Pepe Garieri, Adam White, Amy Balas
Absent/Regrets	Alyssa Robinson, Donna Paquette
Recorder	Vicki Blakely

A. Call to Order:

1. Welcome

Stephen O’Sullivan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Territorial Recognition

Adam White acknowledged that the meeting although virtually would normally take place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishnabe Peoples.

3. Opening Prayer

Nancy Guillemette led the opening prayer.

4. Introductions

Stephen O’Sullivan introduced Adam White as the chair of the meeting. Adam White invited members to introduce themselves.

5. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Nancy Guillemette, seconded by Christine Aquin that the Agenda be accepted with the additions.

Carried.

6. Additions to the Agenda

B – 1: Discussions/Presentations – Confirming motion of Holly Trinity Catholic Secondary School French Immersion Expansion

C – 2: Information Items - Student Updates

7. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None.

8. Approval of the Summary of the Meeting of Wednesday, November 27, 2019

MOTION: Moved by Marie-Claude Caron-Charette, seconded by Alan Morin that the Summary of the Meeting of Wednesday, November 27, 2019 be approved as presented.

Carried.

9. Business Arising from the Minutes

Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School's French Immersion program has been approved by the Board and will commence beginning in the 2020-2021 school year. Interest has been expressed at Grade 8 nights from both PVNC and Public Board families. There are 24 students registered for the class, but that could increase depending on late registrations.

There was a discussion whether the current pandemic situation with COVID-19 would delay the French Immersion at Holy Trinity. At this time there is nothing to indicate the program wouldn't be delayed due to the pandemic.

Helen McCarthy spoke on behalf of The Board, stating they are happy with the French As A Second Language Advisory Committee's work and thanked the members for their input.

Since the last meeting 2 new DELF Correctors have been appointed and trained in December.

The French Immersion Program review is on hold at this time due to the pandemic. Dates will be rescheduled to allow for the review to still go forward in the future.

B. Discussions/Presentations:

1. Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School French Immersion Program

MOTION: Moved by Lynne Milette-Carol, seconded by Nancy Guillemette that the Committee reapprove the recommendation of the French Immersion Program at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School to

commence in the 2020/2021 school year be approved.

Carried.

2. French Teacher Recruitment/Information update from Human Resources

Christine Aquin provided an update on the recruitment of French Immersion and Core French teachers, some hiring has already taken place and more interviews will be happening. June will determine how many French teachers are required for the coming school year, however trends over the last 5-7 years the majority of teaching positions required are French. The board should be in good shape for the fall with flexibility in regards to distribution and LTOs.

Christine Aquin discussed teacher qualifications and applications to the Ministry of Education to grant temporary licenses. The Board does use this as a tool to fill LTO's for French Immersion, Core French, and Technology. In comparison to other boards across the province our numbers are relatively low.

Christine Aquin informed the Committee that the Board had recently been part of a survey by the Ministry of Education that should have results back in regards to how school boards are recruiting, interviewing and hiring.

3. DELF

Adam White discussed the DELF testing that was scheduled to begin May 4 and again June 1. At this time, due to the pandemic, it is unsure whether the testing will go forward as schools are currently closed. We are waiting to hear from France, the Ontario DELF Centre and the Ministry of Education for direction. He will reach out to the Ontario DELF Centre to express the interest of students to still complete the DELF this spring. Around 65 students were interested in completing the DELF this year.

4. Update 3-Year FSL Plan

Adam White review the current FSL 3-Year Plan highlighting goals and seeking input. There was a discussion around growth, engagement and retention of students in French Immersion and Core French. He requested the committee to review the FSL Plan and provide input for additions to the document by the end of April.

C. Information Items:

1. Funding Update

Adam White provided an update on funding. The pilot program J'usqu'au Bout in secondary has had a positive impact on students and been well received by staff. The funding for new French classrooms or programs and Extended French Experiences has been allocated this year to support new primary classes at Good Shepherd CES, to support a new French Immersion Foods class at St. Peter CSS and to support a 3-day excursion to St. Donat, QC for students at St. Mary CSS. Professional

development is on hold at this point due to the pandemic. It was asked that any ideas for virtual professional development be forwarded to him. It is not known at this point what will happen with any leftover funding due to the pandemic. Adam White will look into the TPA to see if it can be extended due to the circumstances.

2. Student Updates

Abbigail Chambers discussed concerns about being in a 3-way split class with 3 grades, but how she has been very pleased with the separation of work and how the course rolled out to accommodate each level. Distance learning has since rolled, assignments sectioned off: reading, listening, speaking. The support has been very good.

Abbey Shaughnessy discussed how teachers have been very supportive with the roll out of distance learning by providing open office hours and a forum for questions. Classes are organized with assignments, deadlines, and video learning with a real classroom feel. The transition of distance learning has gone better than she thought.

The committee thanked the student representatives for their input and congratulated Alyssa Robinson and Abbigail Chambers as they will be graduating this June.

F. Next Meeting:

1. Wednesday, November 25, 2020, 4:30 p.m., Catholic Education Centre Boardroom
3. Selection of Member for Territorial Recognition/Opening Prayer – Lynne Milette-Carol
4. Selection of Member for Closing Prayer – Adam White

G. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer – Marie-Claude Caron-Charette
2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Abigail Chambers, seconded by Abbey Shaughnessy that the meeting adjourn – 6:27 p.m.

Carried.