



Minutes

The Minutes of the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 23, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. virtually through Google Meet.

PRESENT:

Trustees/Members: Linda Ainsworth, Mark Joly, Nancy Guillemette, Elena Shaughnessy, Alan Morin, Donna Paquette, Bridget Cork, Aniela D'Avernas,

Students: Julia Greco, Jeffery Hardy

Regrets: Lynne Milette-Carroll

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

Guests: Sarah Taylor, Sandra Connolly

Recorder: Jennifer Hardy

A. Call to Order:

1. Welcome

Adam White welcomed the committee to the meeting.

2. Territorial Recognition

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

2. Opening Prayer

Sheila Piggott led the opening prayer.

3. Approval of the Agenda / Additions to the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Mark Joly, seconded by Julia Greco that the Agenda be approved.

Carried

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 21, 2021

MOTION: Moved by Mark Joly, seconded by Alan Morin that the Agenda be approved.

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Discussion/Presentations:

1. Mathematics in Primary French Immersion

Sandra Connolly/Sarah Taylor

Sandra Connolly and Sarah Taylor lead a discussion in the concepts of mathematics in primary French Immersion. The program will help build teachers' knowledge and understanding so they can help their students better. The concept is 3 parts: Number Recourse, games and Thinking Outside the box in solving problems.

The Math Up was introduced to the following grades;

- Grades 7-8 in Spring 2021
- Grade 4-6 in Fall 2021
- Grades 1-3 will be in Fall of 2022

The Math Up resource will be available in English for the teachers with French Resources for the students. The committee was also introduced to Number Talks and how this activity supports developing communication skills in Mathematics and Oral language development in French.

2. De-streaming French classes - Core & Immersion

Adam White

Adam White led a discussion in the de-streaming of the French classes beginning in Fall of 2022. All courses are expected to be de-streamed in grade 9 and there will be only 1 level of French with the exception of the FSF1D. This program will be for grade 9 who have little to no French language experience (such as newcomers or students who have been home schooled). Students in the French Immersion Stream will remain separate from the Core French De-streaming but will initially be streamed into 1 pathway of French.

Through discussion, the committee expressed concern over class sizes and students not getting the support that they will require to succeed. There was also discussion around students who may excel in French and how to ensure they are fully engaged in the classroom so that they continue within the French pathway. It may be difficult for teachers to balance the different skill sets in a de-streamed class.

The committee expressed a desire to see targeted professional development around assessment and planning for a differentiated environment including voices from both the secondary and elementary panels.

Funding from the government will allow for more support for the French Educational Staff. Options

that will be available:

- Professional Learning
- Professional resources
- Workshops
- Conferences
- FSL qualifications
- Activities/opportunities and networking

The revised French Immersion Administrative Procedure: not discussed at the meeting due to time restraints.

3. French Immersion Update at Holy Trinity

Mark Joly

Mark Joly discussed the update of the French Immersion program at Holy Trinity. It is a 4-year plan that is slowly being rolling out. Currently there is only 1 feeder school (Good Shepherd). The program began with 18 students, who are now in Grade 10, and the school currently has 7 students in their program in grade 9. Over the next few years, the numbers will be increasing as we are seeing higher numbers in French Immersion currently at Good Shepherd.

C. Information Items:

1. DELF Update – plans for this year and training

Adam White

Adam White discussed the DELF for 2022, which at this point it is not guaranteed. Barriers to holding the DELF will be supply teacher coverages. Still waiting for confirmation of the exam and currently leaning towards the April Session. Might have to hold the exam in zones rather than at individual schools. Once the decision is made then the schools will be notified.

2. Student Voice Update

Julia Greco/ Jeffery Hardy

Julia Greco, who is a student at St. Peter, discussed highlights of the French Immersion program at the school. She also stressed the importance of the program and its success.

Jeffery Hardy, a student at St. Stephen discussed the program and the introduction of applied FI in grade 9. Jeffrey also expressed the desire for his grade to do the DELF this year.

D. Next Committee Meeting:

1. Wednesday, April 27, 2022, 4:30 p.m. – Google Meet or in person, TBD
2. Selection of member for Opening Prayer for April 27, 2022: Nancy Guillemette
3. Selection of member for Closing Prayer for April 27, 2022: Julia Greco

E. Conclusion

1. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Adam White.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Julia Greco and seconded by Bridget Cork that the meeting adjourned – 6:10 p.m.

Carried