



**The Minutes of the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in the small Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre.**

\*Attended meeting virtually

**PRESENT:**

Trustees/Members: Linda Ainsworth, Aniela d'Avernas, Stacey Sambrook, Meaghan Tahon, Mandy-Sue Dubreil-Citro\*, Alan Morin\*, Donna Paquette, Natacha Couillard, Mélanie Bergeron-Langlois, Lisa Heitzner

Administration: Joan Carragher\*, Sheila Piggott\*, Adam White

Absent/Regrets: Autumn Scott, Lynne Milette-Carroll

Recorder: Amy McLeod

**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

Adam White welcomed the committee and there was a roundtable of introductions as there were new members to the committee.

4. Approval of the Agenda / Additions to the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Aniela d'Avernas, seconded by Natacha Couillard that the Agenda be approved.

Carried

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 21, 2022

MOTION: Moved by Stacey Sambrook, seconded by Linda Ainsworth that the Minutes from the April 21, 2022 be approved.

Carried

## 6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### **B. Discussion/Presentations:**

#### 1. Overview of Funding / Meeting the 3-year Plan Goals for 22-23

Adam White

Adam shared a presentation reviewing Ministry funding for French immersion which support the following areas;

- Support of educational staff
- Provincial and regional leadership projects
- Enriched learning environments/Cultural experiences
- Board developed initiatives
- Funds to run the DELF

The committee discussed each area of funding and shared information/thoughts on how funds are being spent. The Board has purchased the Je li Je li program for K - grade 5 to support teachers in the classroom. There was discussion around the cultural funding and how to use these funds, some examples included concerts, bringing in a chef or organizing a festival, travel to a show or concert (has to be in French), camp to be run for kids on March break and public speaking activities. Some boards are also doing a pilot project where they record a concert with an artist from Cameroon and have the students, from different Boards, ask the artist questions. The committee also discussed homework supports such as Voilà learning. If there was a push that kids would use this resource the Board could relook at how to incorporate it in the curriculum.

An observation was made that classroom funding is not focused on in the Board budget discussions as a lot of resources are purchased through school budgets. Adam asked the committee if there was anything they'd like to see the Board do with the funds? Some committee members commented that they liked the thought of collaborating with another school board, pooling money together and focusing on structured literacy initiatives. They also feel that getting more buy-in from families would encourage students to continue the French stream, some ideas included cultural fairs, hosting workshops connecting families, teachers etc. networking, guest speakers.

Adam shared the Boards 3-year goals for French. There was discussion amongst the committee around how to support the goals. It was recognized that there is difficulty for core French teachers to meet some of these goals as planning tasks are time consuming and so many teachers are building their own programs. French immersion teachers are also looking for continuation of resources for students passing from one grade to the next. Adam proposed creating a writing team to gather resources to help teachers navigate this transition. A writing team could create a document that houses resources in one spot.

#### 2. Structured Literacy in French Immersion

Stacey Sambrook

Stacey shared a thorough presentation around the structured literacy work the reading coach team has been working on in the French immersion classrooms. A lot of the work is focused on phonics, phonetic awareness, scope and sequence as well as decoding text. The reading coaches have been meeting with teachers to understand their need in the classroom and would either assist by co-teaching or leading a class. The team has created an extensive PVNC google site focused on structured literacy resources that teachers can access after meeting with coaches. There are also webinars, YouTube playlists, podcasts, books, links/QR codes available to teachers for PD purposes. It was recognized that structured literacy can be overwhelming for teachers, however the team is hopeful these meetings and resources will help guide teachings in the classroom.

3. Engaging students in the transition to Secondary

Adam White

Due to the interest of time, it was decided to leave this agenda item for the next meeting.

**C. Information Items:**

1. DELF Update – plans for this year and training

Adam White

Adam provided the committee with an update on the DELF and shared some historical statistics. Last year 90 students completed the DELF with 76 students successfully passing. The DELF was held across 4 schools within the Board. The plan for the 2022/23 year is to hold one in April 2023.

2. Student Voice Update

Autumn Scott

Student representative was not in attendance to provide an update.

3. Member updates

All

Due to the interest of time, we were unable to hear member updates.

**D. Next Committee Meeting:**

1. Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 4:30 p.m. – Catholic Education Centre

2. Selection of member for Opening Prayer for April 26, 2023 - Lisa Heitzner

3. Selection of member for Closing Prayer for April 26, 2023 - Natacha Couillard

**E. Conclusion**

1. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Adam White.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Adam White and seconded by Alan Morin that the meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Carried