



Community Advisory Committees

Name of Committee: French as a Second Language Community Advisory Committee
Meeting Date: 11 February 2020

A meeting of the French As A Second Language Community Advisory Committee convened on February 11, 2020 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in Committee Room A at 5050 Yonge Street with Parent Co-Chair Mandy Moore presiding.

Attendance:	Mandy Moore (Parent Co-Chair W7), Matt Forrest (Parent Vice-Co-Chair W9), Charles Zhu (Parent Vice-Co Chair W11), Zeynab Kazi (Parent Vice-Co-Chair W22), Rob Janes (W1/W2), Lisa McAvoy (W2 Alt), Sharlene Henry (W5/W6 Alt), Lynne LeBlanc (W8), Jennifer Tse (W8 Alt), Polina Osmerkina (W10); Wilmar Kortleeve (W11 Alt), Randy Samuel (W14), Sarah Smith (W15) Also present were: Trustee Robin Pilkey (Trustee Co-Chair), Trustee Rachel Chernos Lin (W11), Trustee Dan MacLean (W2), Mary Cruden (Canadian Parents for French), Sharon Beason (Canadian Parents for French), Manon Gardner (Associate Director), Angela Caccamo (Centrally Assigned Principal), Doug Kwan (parent, Millwood), Diana Mockute (parent, Palmerston), Paul D. Ruzin (parent, Palmerston), Joanne Nash (parent, Palmerston), Tereza Maul (Hawthorne II Bilingual Alt), Lauren Chang MacLean (parent, Palmerston), Kate Gertner (parent, Palmerston), Ibimie Opuso-Jama (Beverley) The following participated by electronic means: Kathleen Meek (W15 Alt), Gail Miller (W22 Alt), Rosemary Sutherland (CPF Alt)
Regrets:	Nalini Singh (W2 Alt), Deloris Williamson-Braham (W5/13), Caroline Tolten-Paterson (W7 Alt), Nancy White (W16 Alt), Christie Dunbar (W16), Kirsten Johnston (Program Coordinator)

Part A: Recommendations

Nil

Part B: For Information

Ward Reports

Wards 1, 2, 11 and 15 members spoke to the Thorncliffe Homework Club and issues/concerns. Ward 10 member presented a letter from the Palmerston Avenue JPS parent council. Detail is available on the Feb 11 meeting minutes on the FSLCAC webpage, <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac>.

Delegate Presentations - Palmerston Avenue JPS Parents

Four delegates presented regarding the redirection of some Palmerston JPS SK FI students. The impacted parents would have preferred more time to consider their options. They do not agree with the changes while understanding that the effort assists with the rebalancing of French-English access within the school.

French Review – Membership Consultation

At the June Board Meeting, Trustees approved recommendations which included the redistribution of intensive FSL programs to improve equity of access across the Board. Staff presented maps of the current FI schools, pathways and catchment areas. The Membership considered two guiding questions (as time permitted) and their own responses, in an effort to review options and consider possible solutions.

Staff presented two questions:

Question 1:

Currently, there are 71 SK French Immersion sites and 38 Grade 4 Junior Extended French sites across the TDSB. Given their current locations, and the guarantee that all on-time applicants are offered a placement in an intensive FSL program, but not a particular school, there are varying distances that students travel to access a French program. Some students may walk as the intensive FSL program is located at their neighbourhood school, while others may be transported as the local intensive FSL program is further or the number of allotted program spaces has reached capacity, and therefore they have been redirected to a nearby school with available program space.

What would be a reasonable distance to travel for students accessing an intensive FSL program?

Question 2:

Currently, every home address in TDSB is connected with an English school and all of those home addresses make-up what is called a catchment. Each English school catchment is associated with a French Immersion school defining the catchment of that French Immersion school. Presently, we have 14 French Immersion schools whose French catchment is only associated to their own English home school (e.g. Adam Beck Junior PS, Allenby Junior PS, Howard Junior PS, RH McGregor Elementary School, Runnymede Junior & Senior PS, etc.). Whereas, other French Immersion schools may have 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 English school catchments. Some like Corvette Junior PS and William G. Miller PS have 15 English school catchments associated to their French Immersion school

What should be the minimum number of feeder schools to an intensive FSL program?

A vast amount of answers, ideas, and points for further consideration were discussed. Details may be found on the Feb 11 meeting minutes on the FSLCAC website, <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac>. Staff offered to provide a package with map and guiding questions to the Membership to take to their School Council meetings, parent communities, if agreeable to the Membership.

Part C: Ongoing Matters

Nil

Report Submitted by: Manon Gardner