



French as a Second Language Committee (FSLC)

Thursday, May 20, 2020, 4:00 p.m.
Teams Meeting

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Brush	Chair
Rosemary Pochopsky	Trustee, Kirkland Lake
Brian Peever	Trustee, Iroquois Falls, Black River and Matheson
Lesleigh Dye	Director of Education
Kristen Niemi	Superintendent of Education
Lynda Mitchell	FSL System Lead and Vice-Principal
Paula Walker	Principal, New Liskeard Public School
Tanya Vincze	Principal, Timmins Centennial Public School
Terry McMillan	Vice-Principal, Kirkland Lake District Composite School
Haley Brooks	FSL Instructional Coach
Luke Parent	Teacher, Diamond Jubilee Public School
Samantha Chin	Teacher, Roland Michener Secondary School
Shelley Scheck	Teacher, Bertha Shaw Public School

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REGRETS:

Daniel Card	Teacher, Englehart High School
Jacinthe Messier	Teacher, Kirkland Lake District Composite School
Nathalie Vigneux	Teacher, Iroquois Falls Secondary School – Elementary
Chantal Phippen	Parent, New Liskeard Public School
Shannon Laroche	Parent, Timmins Centennial Public School

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Lisa Nixon	Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Education, Kristen Niemi
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CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at **4:00 p.m.**
Teams introductions were made.

November 18, 2019 meeting minutes were discussed with no changes.

UPDATE ON DSB1's FSL PLAN:

Lynda Mitchell and Haley Brooks provided an update with a PowerPoint presentation:

[FSL Committee Meeting Slide Presentation – May 21 2020](#)



Overview:

Supporting FSL students with Special Education needs
Our focus on oral language
DELFL results from Fall 2019
Extended Learning Opportunities
Professional Development – OMLTA

SUPPORTING FSL STUDENTS, EDUCATORS & FAMILIES THROUGH DISTANCE LEARNING:

- ❖ See PowerPoint presentation on how the Learning and Teaching Team has supported FSL students, educators and families.

Family Survey

- Some families expressed concerns about assisting their children with their FSL work when they don't speak French
 - Reminder that instructions for students can be in French.
 - Instructions needed by families are to be in English.

Educator Survey Feedback

- Samantha Chin – positive results with her Grades 7 & 8 students/families. As weather is warmer, some students are not participating as often. We will need to focus on planning activities to keep students motivated to learn; such as outdoor learning opportunities
- Shelley Scheck – positive results with Grades 2 & 3. SeeSaw working great. Challenge is students not participating as often. Many families working from home and their first priority might not be distance learning. Some families are choosing to spend time together as a family when parents/guardians are finished work rather than time completing distance learning.
- Haley Brooks – teachers have gone above and beyond with variety of learning and sharing new ideas with each other. Many are taking risks and changing their approach. Collaboration has been great!
- Luke Parent – using one platform for distance learning would benefit students. Students have been motivated which has been very positive.
- Tanya Vincze – teachers have improved their knowledge and use of technology, platforms, etc. Many teachers have said they will continue to use technology once back in the classroom. Next steps will be to challenge students with oral communication.
- Paula Walker – Zoom calls are beneficial for oral communication. Tip sheets have been great for parents to understand some of the distance learning platforms and how to utilize them.
- Terry McMillan – very impressed with teachers and participation from students. Value and power of teacher networking...how to continue to collaborate and co-plan together to build connections to the outdoors while practicing social distancing to keep students engaged.
- Chair Brush – extremely impressed with reports from three principals during this meeting and how teachers have pulled together to support each other and students/families.
- Trustee Pochopsky – congratulated teachers and acknowledged how fortunate DSB1 is to have 1:1 iPad program which allowed students and staff to jump right into distance learning.
- Superintendent Niemi – demonstrated the 21st century skills and creative ways for FSL students to succeed.

REFLECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS:

Six Priorities for next year:

- 1) Maintain focus on increasing the number of students challenging the B2 DELF (as funding provides)
- 2) Continued focus on oral language
- 3) Supporting students with special education needs in FSL
- 4) Enhancing secondary pathways in French Immersion
- 5) Extended learning opportunities (as funding provides)
- 6) Lessons learned during educator-led distance learning



Kristen will email the 2015 Ministry document called "Including Students with Special Education Needs in FSL programs". Pages 35, 41 & 42 provide strategies that support students with special education needs in FSL programs.

QUESTIONS:

Will they be re-scheduling the DELF that was missed in May?

The DELF is a Global test with a face-to-face format that cannot be completed virtually. We are currently waiting for direction from CIEP for possible re-scheduling.

Can we provide results from the last 5 years to show success for FSL?

Yes, data can be presented at the next meeting.

How can we encourage students to challenge the B2?

We can build up student confidence and ability. A continued focus on oral language (speaking and listening) will contribute to more students being successful on the B2 assessment. Although the jump from B1 to B2 is significant, some students choose to challenge the B1 over the B2 level in order to guarantee success. There is no opportunity to challenge the lower level if students do not succeed at the B2.

Will the Strategic Plan be extended?

The 3-year plan works around the electoral schedule. A consultation plan will be shared by November 2020 to wrap up the last year and start a new plan. The new plan will build on the current strengths and successes and will also have some meaningful changes.

How will we transition to a new FSL plan since 2019-20 is the last year for our current FSL plan?

The new Ministry FSL Plan will be shared as soon as it becomes available. We will maintain our priorities as outlined above and incorporate them into the Ministry FSL plan.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at **5:15 p.m.**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

TBD for the 2020-2021 School Year.