



French as a Second Language Committee (FSLC)

Thursday, October 15, 2020, 4:00 p.m.
Teams Meeting

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Brush	Chair
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
Chantal Phippen	Parent, New Liskeard Public School

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REGRETS:

Rosemary Pochopsky	Trustee, Kirkland Lake
Daniel Card	Teacher, Englehart High School
Nathalie Vigneux	Teacher, Iroquois Falls Secondary School – Elementary
Shelley Scheck	Teacher, Bertha Shaw 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.

May 21, 2020 meeting minutes were discussed with no changes.

DSB1'S 2020-21 FSL PLAN:

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

Overview:

- Due to restrictions surrounding release time and cohorts, professional learning opportunities and supports will occur somewhat differently this year.
- Continued support of schools that have identified Oral Language in their SIPSAWs;
- On-demand, virtual support for educators for speaking and listening strategies related CEFR-inspired practice supporting the DELF;
- Voluntary virtual sessions offered outside of the instructional day or during preparation times;
- Participation in virtual conferences;



- Resource-specific professional development (recorded webinars to access as convenient, book studies, short live webinars);
- Building confidence at the B2 Level with Iboux (for grade 12 FIF students) which provides virtual private lessons with qualified French instructors and provides students with an opportunity to engage in synchronous learning with a French first-language speaking instructor.
- Building confidence at all levels with optional Professional Development for Educators (the CEFR inspired classroom series with Denis Cousineau);
- Continued focus on speaking and listening throughout all grades with sharing of resources, leveraging the use of digital resources and authentic cross-curricular opportunities.
- Building confidence in core French with a new program purchased for Grades 7-9 learners through Pearson.
- Building confidence with Educators with an FSL Labour Market Partnership Project (OPSBA), CASLT provides virtual conference book studies and virtual co-planning sessions are also available for educators.
- Resources for students with exceptionalities include voluntary access to a digital book study leading educators through key concepts and strategies to support struggling readers in the junior grades. The goal is to retain French Immersion students by closing gaps and building confidence.

SUPPORTING FSL STUDENTS THROUGH DISTANCE LEARNING:

- Importance of parental communication and building connections with FSL teachers – ease parental concerns around FSL;
- Streamlining asynchronous platforms (SeeSaw and Showbie);
- Purchasing of virtual resources to support online teaching for both virtual teachers and face to face educators (Infos-Jeunes, Je lis, je lis, Raz-Plus and FSL for all web access);
- The importance of synchronous learning opportunities as a way to build community and motivate.

REFLECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS:

- Preparing for possibility of Board-wide, regional or school transition to full distance learning (e.g., family & educator tip sheets, virtual resources, sharing platforms for teachers);
- Continued focus on oral language and confidence;
- Leveraging the use of digital and technological resources to support distance learning with our goals in mind
- DELF (dependent on provincial directives);
- Organizing student extended learning opportunities – in a virtual context;
- Possibility of having student voice at committee table;
- New FSL 3 year plan – awaiting Ministry direction.

COMMENTS:

- What excited Tanya about distance learning is that instead of building a wall, we removed the barrier and continued to find solutions to supporting students and FSL educators.
- Chair brush commented that working on building confidence with all parties for FSL is great. Do we have any FSL courses offered during September and October. Haley commented FIF at TDSS and one core French being offered during 2nd rotation. KLDCS is currently offering FIF1D and Cochrane is offering FSF1.
- Concern was expressed regarding evidence of tying the FSL plan to the strategic plan. Kristen spoke to this point; citing ties to Innovation, Equity and Culture. These connections will be more explicitly stated at our next meeting. We are in process of updating our strategic plan which will be brought to the Board in November.
- Trustee Peever commented the meeting was informative and great to see all of the technology being used and steps taken to move forward with the current situation we are in. Iboux is a very interesting program and great that it is being offered to teachers and students.



District School Board Ontario North East

- Director Dye appreciated Haley sharing the student voice recordings and how important that is for a positive future story for our students.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at **5:35 p.m.**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

February 18, 2021