

# Upper Grand District School Board

## French as a Second Language Advisory Committee

### Minutes (Draft)

Monday, November 13, 2017

The French as a Second Language Advisory Committee of the Upper Grand District School Board met on Monday, November 13, in the Boardroom at 500 Victoria Road North, Guelph, Ontario commencing at 5:30 p.m.

The following **Parent Representatives** were present: Vikki Brown, Core French, City of Guelph; Kate Shirton-Smith, French Immersion, City of Guelph.

Present from **staff** were: Beth Burns, Principal, John F. Ross CVI; Peter LeBlanc, French as a Second Language Lead; Jillian Leslie, Curriculum Lead (FSL); Tracey Lindsay, Superintendent of Program.

**Trustees** present: Marty Fairbairn (Co-Chair), Kathryn Cooper, Lynn Topping.

Regrets: Korb Whale (Co-chair), French Immersion, Wellington County; Wendy Davidson, Core French, Wellington County; Lindsay MacDonald, French Immersion, Dufferin County; Robin Ross, French Immersion, Wellington County; Jonathan Walker, Principal of Program.

Absent: Dan Jones, Secondary; Michelle Phoenix, Core French, City of Guelph.

Vacancies: French Immersion Parent Representative, City of Guelph; Core French Parent Representative, Wellington County; Core French Representative, Dufferin County.

**Co-Chair** Marty Fairbairn called the meeting of the FSLAC to order at 5:30 p.m. on November 13, 2017 in the Boardroom of the Guelph Board Office.

### Approval of Agenda November 13, 2017

Marty Fairbairn moved that the agenda of November 13, 2017 be approved. **Principal**

Beth Burns seconded the motion.

**The motion carried.**

### **Approval of Minutes October 2, 2017**

Marty Fairbairn moved that the minutes of October 2, 2017 be approved. **Trustee** Lynn Topping seconded the motion.

**The motion carried.**

### **Review of Meeting Norms**

Marty Fairbairn asked if anyone needed a review of the norms. No review was required by members.

### **Overview of Draft FSL 3-year Plan 2017/20**

**Curriculum Lead** Jillian Leslie presented the draft of the 3-year FSL Plan 2017/20. She highlighted the 3 Ministry FSL Goals and asked members to provide feedback by recording questions and/or comments about the FSL Plan directly on a provided copy. She instructed each group to assign one member to record responses. **FSL Lead** Peter LeBlanc divided members into two groups and asked that each group be comprised of at least one parent, one Trustee and one staff member. FSLAC members were provided 30 minutes to record questions, feedback and/or comments to share with staff.

Jillian Leslie and Peter LeBlanc collected the recorded responses.

### **Overview of The Annual French Review Background Report for 2017/18**

Peter LeBlanc presented a summary of the Annual French Review Background Report for 2017/18. The summary included an overview of the JK FI enrolment and retention data as it relates to the JK FI registration, selection & waitlist process, and information on available student space in schools, available FSL staff, issues and concerns from and revisions to the registration, selection and waitlist process and JK FI school enrolment caps revisions and recommendations.

An opportunity was provided for questions or comments.

Parent representative Kate Shirton-Smith asked if the intention of the cap revision was to reduce the number of FDK classes in FI. She clarified that she was asking specifically about Ecole Arbour Vista.

**Superintendent of Program** Tracey Lindsay responded that this wasn't necessarily the

case. The JK FI enrolment cap at some schools may be in place to maximize the use of the FDK class size cap and FDK purpose-built classrooms. But it is also in place with a school's overall available student space in mind.

Peter LeBlanc added that the change of the FDK class-size cap from 30 to 29 would increase the number of classrooms needed at 4 schools. Classroom caps also change between FDK and Grades 1-3, where the class caps are 20. As an example, some schools have JK FI enrolment caps of 40, which will more easily accommodate the creation of primary classes with a cap of 20. He also added that without adjusting the enrolment caps and increasing the number of FDK classes in FI, more French Qualified (FQ) teachers would be required. The report identified the availability of FQ teachers as an ongoing challenge.

Marty Fairbairn asked if it was possible that the students currently in the holding sites will all be placed by the end of the year? What will the numbers look like in the holding sites then?

Peter LeBlanc stated that students in the two holding sites are on waitlists from several FI schools across Upper Grand. Placement will occur if attrition occurs at their FI home school. The next placement date is January 29, 2018. If no placement occurs at the end of this school year, a student's holding site placement ends and they would need to be registered at their home Regular Track school for SK.

### **Minister of Education - October 28 Announcement re: Steps to Boost Recruitment of New French Teachers**

Due to time, Marty Fairbairn asked if there were any objections to inviting members to view the video of Minister of Education Mitzi Hunter's statement and read the Canadian Parent for French press release on their own. A link and the copy of the press release was provided to all members.

There were no objections.

### **Adjournment**

Marty Fairbairn motioned for adjournment of meeting at 6:53 p.m. Lynn Topping seconded the motion.