

# **French Advisory Council (FAC)**

## **Minutes**

Monday, February 22, 2021

Zoom web conference - 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Attendees: Brayden Gordon, Rudy Terpstra, Francois Provencher, Angela Dodd, Catherine Buchanan, Elaine Young, Andrea Button, Debbie Comer, Lesley LaCouvee, Vivian Collyer

- 1) Territorial Acknowledgement
- 2) School Updates

### École Oceanside Elementary:

- Currently completing School Review Process in preparation for next year.
- Looking at student numbers for next year, and determining staffing needs.
- New FI staff have joined EOES – Welcome to Stephanie Labelle (Gr 1/2) and Lucas Sposato (Gr 3/4)
- New playground coming soon - PAC funded...thank you!
- BSS Open House and Course Selection beginning soon; Lesley is having transition discussions with Grade 7's
- Pink Shirt Day - bilingual virtual assembly led by our Grade 6/7 students with Mme Tanner
- Concours d'art oratoire - essay & speech writing contest happening in March for all Grades 5-7 students; the provincial contest is May 1<sup>st</sup>; classes will be starting the class level and school level speech writing process anytime between now and mid April to be ready to submit names to the provincial contest.
- FI school budget - looking for more digital resources and \$1000 toward for French library books; ordering new guided reading book sets for primary and intermediate level readers.
- French Language Assistant (provided to district every 2<sup>nd</sup> year by the Ministry) – unfortunately the candidate who was supposed to be joining EOES in the new year withdrew her application due to COVID concerns. The Ministry is hoping to assign someone to us for next year instead.
- BSS tutors - still trying to find ways to connect the BSS tutors to EOES students due to logistical complication. Brayden and Francois will continue to work on this.
- EFI Kindergarten information session for parents in Zoom – received lots of positive feedback from community.

### École Secondaire Ballenas Secondary:

- The two new French Immersion courses, CLE 10 and History 12 are happening this quarter.
- Career is new class that is challenging to find material in French
- Grade 12 celebration will be a luncheon
- Looking for new learning resources for FI math and sciences
- Students are starting course selection for next year.
- Virtual Open House for Grade 7 families is Thursday, Feb. 25.
- Class visits by the Ballenas team will happen in EOES classes during week of March 1.

- 3) District Update
  - a) Early French Immersion Kindergarten registration:
    - i) FI K registration deadline was Feb. 5
    - ii) 27 siblings; 19 non-siblings
    - iii) Vivian is currently calling parents of waitlisted K students from this year who haven't yet been placed in FI to see whether they are interested in Grade 1 entry into EFI in Sept. 2021
    - iv) EOES is confirming with families that their students who moved to DL or out-of-district in response to the pandemic will be returning to EOES in the fall
  - b) Vivian provided a sneak preview of the new French programs web page for the district website. She will let FAC members know when it becomes live.
  - c) We have \$1800 from the federal funding grant to spend on Cultural Activities this year; it is challenging to organize events because of the pandemic safety protocols; FAC members will send Vivian their ideas.
- 4) Next FAC meeting: late spring; date TBD