

French Advisory Council (FAC)

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 19, 2020

Zoom web conference - 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Attendees: Brayden Gordon, Rudy Terpstra, Francois Provencher, Angela Dodd, Catherine Buchanan, Elaine Young, Andrea Button, Debbie Comber, Greer Cummings, Vivian Collyer

- 1) Welcome, Introductions
- 2) Adoption of the Agenda: Agenda adopted.
- 3) Territorial Acknowledgement: Vivian will send school reps the French versions, as there is interest in incorporating it into the school and learning routines this year.
- 4) Review of FAC Terms of Reference:

Mandate – FAC provides advice, recommendations and feedback to senior staff on matters relating to French language programs in the District.

Role - FAC meets at least three times each year to discuss strategic priorities as they relate to funding allocation and program development:

- To promote and support French Language learning in SD69
- To support relevant, accessible, high quality FSL programs that optimize resources and appropriately complement district programming
- To help integrate FSL program guidelines within the district’s learning framework, as well as serve as a forum for ongoing sharing of perspectives on program directions
- To ensure our district programs align with federal funding guidelines

5) School Updates:

a) École Secondaire Ballenas Secondary School – Francois and Rudy

- Grade 12 FI students’ language skills are still strong in spite of long absence due to COVID-19; all demonstrated lengthy oral presentations.
- Grade 8 FI students seemed to have struggled a bit from the long absence from school as they transition to high school this year; however, they are settling in well now; no lockers, using bins for storage; Zoom in once a week with student in Home Support
- Grade 9 FI students are in Math/Science this semester Q1 and Q2. They just returned from an over night camping trip.
- Grade 10 FI students are in FRAL and PHE this semester. They will have no Immersion courses next quarter; however, they will be offered oral language resources for Q2.
- Grade 11 FI students do not have an Immersion class this quarter, but will later in the year.
- New FI courses added this year: PE 10, CLE 10 and 20 C History 12; creates a fulsome FI program at BSS for our secondary students
- 3 FI Home Support students are receiving oral resources at home and are supported by a Home Support Teacher.
- COVID-19 safety protocols makes it challenging to connect with other colleagues in the French Dept.

b) École Oceanside Elementary School – Angela and Brayden

- Total student population = 456
- 15 FI divisions, 6 Eng
- 21 new staff members
- Home support teachers report that French language resources are primary need for parents
- 3 students in DL at CEAP for this year only due to pandemic; return to EOES FI next year
- Class reviews today and overall FI doing very well, but definitely notice a language gap after longer absence due to COVID-19 last year. Teachers are trying to figure out how to support students while still honouring current grade curriculum and competencies.
- Learning Groups - many are mixed Eng/Fr groups and going well; some parents would prefer French only groups; Purpose aligns with EOES goal to create a “bilingual community” rather than a “dual track” school.
- Awakening the “Welcome Pole” event with all classes
- Online resources “Raz-Kids” & “Je lis” have been purchased for both in school and home support. “Le monde en marche, Regardons sur le monde” (Science Humaines) and “Lalilo” (Phonics) are other good resources
- Student vote is happening this week
- Virtual Scholastic Book Fair & Library French resources - library opening this week for students
- Starting FI teacher meetings on Nov 3 (every 2nd month)

6) District Update - Vivian

a) Enrolment – Sept. 2020 - Vivian

School	Grades	Enrolment	Home Support
French Immersion:			
Oceanside	K-7	354	35
Ballenas	8-12	96	3
Total	K-12	450	44
Core French:			
Elementary	5-7	836	
Secondary	8-12	412	
Total	5-12	1248	

b) Home Support update – Vivian

- 35 FI students at EOES and 3 at BSS
- Exploring options for French language practice for those students in full-time Home Support (Rosetta Stone, student tutors from BSS, Interactions between classes at EOES and BSS)

c) Professional learning opportunities

- BCATML virtual conference, Oct. 23 and 24
- BCATML resources at <https://www.bcatml.org/courses--events.html> (merci Angela)

- SD68 Indigenous learning series session : *Les Bois-Brûlés de l'Outaouais* with Sébastien Malette

7) FI DL

- Discussion re. possibility of Ministry of Education supporting provincial options for FI DL so that there are more course offering choices to students in smaller program
- Greer has information to share with us on this topic and will send to Vivian
- this topic will move forward to our next FAC meeting for discussion and possible recommendation

8) DELF

- French language proficiency scale based on the European Framework
- used around the world
- certification assessment available through UVic
- new tools for student self-assessment as well; possibility for FI teachers to consider for use with our students

9) Next meeting: Monday, Nov. 30 (5:00-6:00 pm); Zoom link to follow closer to meeting date