



Special Meeting of the Board
(Board By-Laws S. 6.3.3)
Tuesday, January 16, 2018 ♦ 6:00 p.m.
Boardroom

Members: Rick Petrella (Chair), Dan Dignard (Vice Chair), Cliff Casey, Bill Chopp, Carol Luciani, Bonnie McKinnon

Senior Administration:

Chris N. Roehrig (Director of Education & Secretary), Thomas R. Grice (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer), Patrick Daly, Michelle Shypula and Leslie Telfer (Superintendents of Education)

1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

1.2 Attendance

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Page 1

1.4 Declaration of Interest

2. Committee and Staff Reports

2.1 French as a Second Language Update
Presenter: Leslie Telfer, Superintendent of Education

Pages 2-5

3. Business In-Camera

207. (2) Closing of certain committee meetings. A meeting of a committee of a board, including a committee of the whole board, may be closed to the public when the subject-matter under consideration involves,
- The security of the property of the board;
 - The disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or his or her parent or guardian;
 - The acquisition or disposal of a school site;
 - Decisions in respect of negotiations with employees of the board; or
 - Litigation affecting the board.

4. Report on the In-Camera Session

5. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 23, 2018, 7:00 p.m. - Boardroom

REPORT TO THE BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Prepared by: Leslie Telfer, Superintendent of Education
Presented to: Board of Trustees
Submitted on: January 16, 2018
Submitted by: Chris N. Roehrig, Director of Education & Secretary

FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE UPDATE

Public Session

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

All programs in the French as a Second Language (FSL) curriculum at the elementary and secondary levels share a **common vision** that students will communicate and interact with growing confidence in French, one of Canada's official languages, while developing knowledge, skills, and perspectives they need to participate fully as citizens in Canada and in the world. (French as a Second Language, 2013, p 6)

The Ministry has identified three goals that support the vision for FSL in Ontario in order to promote the use, knowledge and appreciation of French:

1. Increase student confidence, proficiency, and achievement in FSL.
2. Increase the percentage of students studying FSL until graduation.
3. Increase student, educator, parent, and community engagement in FSL.

Students' proficiency in French increases based on the amount of time, the level of engagement and intensity of instruction in French. For this reason, in addition to our Core French Programs that offer the mandatory 600 hours of French instruction that is required for students in Grade 4 to Grade 8, the BHNCDSD is offering Primary Core French Programs and French Immersion Programs that exceed the minimum requirement for FSL instruction.

Primary students in 24 of our 28 elementary schools are receiving instruction in French for 50 minutes per day, on four days in the weekly cycle. Implementing Primary Core French is an identified action that supports the first goal of the district's three-year plan to increase student confidence, proficiency, and achievement in FSL.

We currently have four different sites offering French Immersion programs in Dual Track schools. Jean Vanier provides a French Immersion program to approximately 190 Kindergarten to Grade 8 students. St. Leo's has three Kindergarten French Immersion classes, as well as a Grade 1 and a Grade 2 class with 112 students in total. St. Joseph School in Simcoe has two kindergarten classes and a Grade 1 class with 60 students in total and Sacred Heart School in Paris has a French Immersion Kindergarten Program and a Grade 1 Immersion class this year with 39 students. These Dual Track schools will continue to offer a new grade each year as each grade progresses.

Holy Trinity is in its fourth year offering an Extended French Program. Students will take a total of seven French courses by the time they graduate from Grade 12. Courses currently offered in French include Extended French Language, Geography, History, and Religion. There are currently **32** students enrolled in Extended French courses at Holy Trinity. There are 20 students in Grade 9 French Immersion Geography for next semester.

In recent years, provincial initiatives have taken place using the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) to inform teacher practice in FSL. The CEFR provides a comprehensive overview of competencies that French language learners need to develop in

order to communicate and interact effectively. It presents levels of language proficiency, starting at the basic level A1, continuing to A2, B1, and B2 (which is considered independent). Levels C1 and C2 reflect a competency level beyond secondary school.

DEVELOPMENTS:

Most recently, results from a survey given to parents in the Haldimand Catholic Schools have been positive. Seventy five families responded to the survey which closed on November 30, 2017. A total of 25 students are interested in registering for French Immersion at Notre Dame School in Caledonia for September, 2018. This is a viable number and we will proceed in offering this program in the fall. Communication to Haldimand schools and families is in progress. A Parent Information Meeting will be held in February at Notre Dame School.

Based on the positive feedback and result of Primary Core French in 24 of our 28 schools, the plan is to have all 28 of our elementary schools offer French starting in Grade 1.

Discussions are ongoing related to offering extended French in a Brantford Secondary School.

In order to support the vision, goals, and guiding principles for FSL in Ontario and within our district, the attached Appendix 1 details the actions that BHNCD SB is taking to continue its current momentum of enriching the French language experiences of all students from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the French as a Second Language Update Report; and

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves a French Immersion Program and Notre Dame School, Caledonia, starting in September 2018.

BHNCD SB FSL PLAN UPDATE

FSL- French as a Second Language

FSL- Core Grades 4-8		FSL – Primary Grades 1-3		FSL – Secondary Grades 9-12		French Immersion	
Sept. 2017	The board purchased a new resource <i>Mon réseau, ma vie</i> from Pearson to support the delivery of the FSL curriculum 2013 and the CEFR to all Grade 7 and Grade 8 students.	July 2017	A team of 4 teachers attended an Accelerative Integrated Methodology (AIM) Summer Institute to advance their training and knowledge of the AIM gesture approach to language learning that is being successfully used with our primary students.	2016 to present	The Board has registered with a company called Voilà Learning that offers free online homework help with French tutors Monday to Thursday from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This service is offered to all of our students taking French in Grades 1 to 12.	Sept. 28, 2017	All French Immersion Kindergarten teachers met to discuss the new Kindergarten Program and the Growing Success Kindergarten Addendum and to discuss best practices in order to support our new French language learners.
Sept. 15, 2017	All Core French teachers attended a full day workshop to learn about the new resource for Grade 7 and Grade 8 as well as share best practices about student engagement and building confidence in all grades.	Sept. 27, 2017	All teachers that were new to teaching primary French attended AIM training that uses oral communication and gesturing to improve fluency and language acquisition. Four lead teachers that had attended the Summer Institute training helped facilitate some of the workshops.	May 2017	15 Students from our Board successfully challenged the <i>Diplôme d'études en langue française</i> (DELF) and received their B1 certificate from France. This internationally recognized language exam is offered by the French Ministry of National Education to assess language skills of people whose first language is not French	Oct. 26, 2017	All French Immersion Early Childhood Educators attended a workshop to learn more about language learning practices and become more familiar and comfortable with common French expressions and vocabulary



FSL- Core Grades 4-8		FSL – Primary Grades 1-3		FSL – Secondary Grades 9-12		French Immersion	
Oct. 2, 2017	Four lead teachers met to co-plan as part of a CEFR Regional team that collaborates with 15 other boards within our region to continue our implementation of the new FSL curriculum and the CEFR.	June 2018	Four remaining school to offer primary French will be considered St. Gabriel Notre Dame Brantford St. Pius X St Frances Cabrini	Oct. 5, 2017	FSL Consultant and Department Head attend Provincial CEFR meeting in Toronto to learn about provincial direction and focus for all FSL curriculum	Feb. 2018	Based on the interest from surveys sent out in December, there will be a parent information evening to discuss a new French Immersion program that will be offered at Notre Dame in Caledonia.
Jan. 2018	Four teachers will pilot a new resource to support our delivery of the FSL curriculum to our junior grades (5 and 6)			Nov. 17, 2017	All FSL Secondary teachers attended workshops that focused on engaging our secondary students with authentic action-oriented tasks and updated resources	Mar. – April 2018	All French Immersion teachers will participate in PLCs that focus on supporting all students in French Immersion especially students with special needs. Two resources have been purchased. <i>Languages for All</i> and <i>Access for Success</i> .
Feb. 2018	All Core French teachers will participate in PLCs. Our focus will be on continuing to improve confidence and proficiency in our FSL students through the planning of engaging and authentic tasks along with effective feedback and a focus on metacognition, self-evaluation, and goal setting.			May 2018	Students from Grade 12 will have the opportunity to challenge the DELF (Diplôme d'études en langue française) an internationally recognized language proficiency exam.		

