

**French Advisory Committee  
Agenda**

**January 17, 2023**

**1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. (PST)**

VIA TEAMS:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

SD8 French Immersion Program Website ([Click Here](#))

**Present:**

Ben Eaton  
Tamara Malloff  
Vanessa Finnie  
Wanda Machado  
Laury Carrier  
Tim Mushumanski  
Victoria Jordan  
Honor Rozee  
Nona Lynn

**Regrets:**

Trustee Gribbin  
Mary Jayne Blackmore  
Kathy Etheridge  
Danielle Labonte

1. Call to Order  
The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.
2. Territory Acknowledgement  
*"We acknowledge, respect and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District No. 8."*
3. Introductions/Welcome  
A round table of introductions took place.
4. Adoption of January 17, 2023 Agenda  
The January 17, 2023 FAC Agenda was approved.
5. Adoption of October 18, 2022 Minutes  
The October 18, 2023 Minutes were approved.
6. District Updates
  - a. Review Terms of Reference edits – Director Eaton  
Wanda Machado will reach out to French Immersion teachers to see any parent representatives would like to join the FAC group.  
Chair Trenaman stated that we may need to revise quorum due to the fact that a Trustee may not be able to attend.  
Principal Mushumanski noted that schools can work towards parent engagement prior to revising quorum wording.  
Director Eaton recommended that the TOR and Annual plan be revisited at the next meeting.  
Discussion took place around the potential to include student representatives.

- b. Review of Annual Plan edits – Director Eaton  
District Principal Malloff suggested that Core French be included in the FAC annual plan going forward.  
Wanda Machado suggested that a Core French representative be included in FAC.  
ACTION ITEM: Include Core French FAC representation to next agenda, and potential to revise Annual Plan to include Core French.
- c. French Immersion Enrollment Update – Director Eaton  
30 students register in Nelson  
9 students registered in Creston  
Continuous advertising is taking place in newspapers and radio.
- d. School Plans – French Coordinator Finnie  
French Coordinator Finnie has met with schools and is discussing plans for the school year.  
French Coordinator Finnie is asking that principals complete French School Plans and they could be reviewed at the next meeting.  
Principal Carrier has prepared her French School Plan.
- e. Core French Update – French Coordinator Finnie
  - French Information nights successful and well attended – January 5.
  - District ProD Day – Core French workshop took place, hosted by Ms. Finnie.
  - Core French resources were appreciated. It may be that AIM is too much to expect non-French speaking teachers to use.
  - Potential to have a Simon Fraser university core French person visit out district to provide resources.

7. School Updates:

- a. Canyon Lister Elementary School – Principal Carrier
  - Late FI program grades 5/6/7
  - Core French
  - 24 students in FI, 21 core French students.
  - Looking ahead to next year, deadline for application is March 1. Anticipating that we will be over subscribed for one class, so waiting to see if there will be a second class worth of students. Every year there are more FI students.
  - Priority will go to siblings and grade 5 students.
  - Long term goals is French Immersion in the high school.
  - Program Highlights: AIM, raising awareness and build the program, FI information sessions in January, Early French immersion program was asked for from families, 2 years ago an informal expression of interest took place run by PAC – at that time there were 19 families K-3 who were interested. Do we have population in Creston for Dual Track FI. The parents who initiated the interest expression – decided that late French immersion and moving on to the high school is where we are at this point.
  - There is interest in and Early French Immersion program in Creston.
  - The plan to grow forward (high school) is more feasible than working towards early French immersion.

French Coordinator Finnie shared that there are families interested in Nelson that are interested in early French immersion. We are looking into the steps of what it would entail to potentially start an early French immersion program.  
Principal Carrier suggesting the conversation begin to take place with the high school regarding French Immersion continuity
- b. Trafalgar Middle School – Principal Mushumanski
  - Learning updates are taking place now.

- Working towards getting Carnival up and running again this year. February 24<sup>th</sup> 11 to 3 - FAC committee is invited to attend.
- FI updates are coming regularly, and many parents are showing interest.
- Plan to hold a poverty awareness month, prior to coldest night of the year, and then doing an overnight with coldest night of the year are being planned currently.
- Chair Trenaman – parents came to the board to have an early immersion program and a class was formed and then disbanded, and then the FI families again asked for early FI and the board voted it down. If parents want something bad enough, they will make it happen. It should be considered – and now Canyon Lister is a magnet school for FI – but would take significant planning on the PVP part to make this happen. Enrollment should be reviewed as you go up the years in school. If there is significant mass at the secondary level in Creston.
- Wanda Machado – As a teacher it's important to consider the levels of language – as provincially there is separate curriculum in FI. Grade 8 is when the early and late FI meet. Early makes the program much more effective.
- District Principal Malloff – How can we bring together the collective wisdom in the district to gather more information? French immersion is a district level program that is administered at the district level. Exploration on if this should be done district wide to start.
- Principal Carrier – asked about budget allocation, didn't receive anything in the FI grant.

ACTION ITEM: Look into funds from French Immersion grants.

- c. L.V. Rogers Secondary School – Principal Malloff
  - Finalizing the first semester
  - Grad Literacy Assessments taking place next week.
  - Anticipating 17 graduates.
  - Partnering with Trafalgar in transitioning – beginning in February.
  - Core French – 23 students. Core French Level 1 and 2.
  - Spending money on upgraded technology for French this year.
8. Schedule of 2022-2023 Meetings is:
  - October 18, 2022
  - January 17, 2023
  - February 21, 2023
  - April 18, 2023
9. Adjournment
  - 2:01 p.m.