
SECONDARY SCHOOLS COMMITTEE ~ OCASC
MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: January 10, 2013

Meeting Location: Fisher Park School Library
250 Holland Avenue, Ottawa

Recorded By: Rong Sun, Chair

ATTENDANCE

Name	School	Role (SSC Rep, Council Member, Parent, etc.)
Mike Beavington	Bell High School	School OCASC Rep
Ellen Lamarre	Canterbury	School Council Chair
Nadine Clarke	Canterbury	SSC Past Chair
Joanna Gacek	Colonel By	School SSC Rep
Elaine Vininsky	Glebe	School SSC Rep
Rong Sun	Lisgar	SSC Chair
Bessie Giovanopoulos	Sir Robert Borden	SSC Liaison Officer
Sue Carswell	South Carleton	SSC Vice-Chair, SSC OCASC Rep.
GUESTS		
Barry Bickerton	OCDSB	System Principle (Secondary), Curriculum Services
Denis Cousineau	OCDSB	Board French Instructional Coach
Nicole Loreto	The Royal	Chief Communications Officer
Kelly Meincke	The Royal	D.I.F.D Coordinator
REGRETS		
April Boomer	AY Jackson	SSC Secretary, School Council Co-Chair/Secretary
Susan Wehrmann	AY Jackson	School Council Secretary
Ainslie Wiggs	Earl of March	School OCASC Rep
Nicola Hemstock	John McCrae	School SSC Rep, SSC OCASC Rep.
Lisa Stevenson	Sir Guy Carleton	SSC Secretary, School Council Chair
Joanne Payne	Sir Wilfred Laurier	School SSC Rep

MEETING LOCATION

Fisher Park School Library (250 Holland Ave., Ottawa)

MEETING START

Meeting Commenced: 7:00pm by Chair, Rong Sun of Lisgar

SPEAKER SUMMARY

System Principal Secondary Curriculum Services of OCDSB, Barry Bickerton

Board French Coach of OCDSB, Denis Cousineau

- French language proficiency (DELFL) initiative was derived from the 2007 OCDSB secondary review for quality assurance.
- A reality: After 12 years of French learning in core, extended or immersion programs, what have the students accomplished at the end of High School? How to measure?
- OCDSB connected with the Embassy of France and in 2008 sent Denis to France to participate in teacher training for DELFL/CERF – an internationally recognized and standardized French language proficiency training and certification program. Levels from low to high include A1, A2, B1 and B2. Skills being tested in DELFL include listening, reading, writing, and oral communication. [DELFL tests](#) are administered internationally at the certified centres twice annually, one in April and the other in November.
- OCDSB started teacher and examiner training in Dec. 2009. 12 teachers across the board were trained by Feb. 2010. Students were consulted and prepared for these tests. In April 2010, the first cohort of Grade 12 students took the DELFL test at three levels. Since then, 5 more sessions took place. More and more Grade 12 students voluntarily took DELFL, with a 96.3% passing rate:
 - ❖ Apr. 2010 - 17 for A2, 22 for B1 and 45 for B2;
 - ❖ Nov. 2010 - 7 for A2, 21 for B1 and 67 for B2;
 - ❖ Apr. 2011 - 4 for A2, 13 for B1 and 59 for B2;
 - ❖ Nov. 2011 - 9 for A2, 77 for B1 and 159 for B2;
 - ❖ Apr. 2012 - 9 for A2, 61 for B1 and 175 for B2;
 - ❖ Nov. 2012 - 20 for A2, 130 for B1 and 275 for B2;
- The preparation of these tests not only provided the board with a tool to measure student achievements, but also brought the teachers together – a network of teachers that works collaboratively and sharing pedagogical best practices have emerged. Technology assisted learning programs are also explored to facilitate student learning. A culture change has occurred – French learning being skill development that are geared towards real life application, i.e. conversation.
- OCDSB is the lead board of the province. Currently the DELFL tests at OCDSB are complimentary to students. The administrative costs are currently absorbed by the Board. The board has conducted a survey to students for feedback on improvement of the program – the results will be summarized and next steps of the DELFL project will be discussed at the end of this pilot circle where a total of eight tests were planned.
- Grade 12 students in French core, extended and immersion programs will receive invitations to DELFL certification – for more details please contact Grade 12 French teachers in your kids' school who are certified DELFL examiners/correctors.
- Full presentation can be found here: <http://prezi.com/n3hpmwevhn-a/delf-and-the-cefr-in-the-ocdsb/>

Chief Communications Officer of The Royal, Nicole Loreto

D.I.F.D Coordinator at The Royal, Kelly Meincke

- Power to the Purple -
- It isn't Just Me – This complimentary program requests school teacher/administration approval. Schools can organize 200 or more students to tour The Royal, with presentations from Neuroscientist, mental health clinicians, and opportunity to ask questions in a safe environment. <http://www.difd.com/heres-how-your-helping/>
- It isn't Just Me – Webcast version is under planning, where real time communication opportunities mimicking the current face-to-face program are being provided.
- Adult version – Resilience and Ready? <http://www.difd.com/heres-how-your-helping/>
- Public events: Big Purple Skating
- Ottawa 67 Game: <http://www.difd.com/events/ottawa-67s-support-power-to-the-purple/>
- Resources: <http://www.difd.com/mental-health-resources/>
- Discussion: The need for a clear and coordinated message source/curriculum to parents and students.

SSC Business:

- Due to members' interests in discussion topics and the limited remaining time remaining, Rong suggested that housekeeping items be discussed before discussing assessment and evaluation.
- **Meeting Minutes:** October and November 2012 meeting minutes approved. Moved by: Bessie Giovanopoulos.
- **OCASC update:** OCASC is not able to provide funding to SSC outreach and member activities this school year. SSC members agreed that the Committee should require OCASC for funding in the upcoming 2013-14 budget. Members also suggested that OCASC annual financial report be shared with SSC.
- **SSC Meeting Dates:** Upcoming SSC meeting dates need to be communicated to members to avoid confusion. Rong has approached OCASC and OCDSB for calendar update.
Action: Rong will follow up with OCASC and OCDSB and a communication will be sent to SSC members for reminder.
- **SSC Annual Election:** SSC will be holding its annual election in May 23 meeting. Only schools that are OCASC members will be entitled to vote. Rong reminded SSC members to follow up with your respective school councils to submit the 2012-13 OCASC membership fee.
Action: SSC members to remind their school councils to submit the OCASC membership fee, if applicable.
Membership form: <http://ocasc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/2012-2013-OCASC-membership-form-fillable.pdf>
- Other agenda items carried.

Assessment and Evaluation

- Rong reminded SSC members to send the June 2012 minutes on assessment and evaluation (posted on <http://ocasc.ca/secondary-schools/>) to your respective school councils for discussion/information.
- SSC will attempt to organize a Board presentation to follow-up on this topic in May 2013 – all schools are encouraged to put forward questions, comments, and/or concerns by April 11 SSC meeting.
Action: SSC members to send the SSC June 2012 meeting minutes to their school councils for questions, comments, and concerns. Information will be sent to ssc.ocasc@gmail.com.
A list will be generated in April 2013 for a Board presentation in May 2013.
- Bessie asked a question regarding tests and assessments: Are the students allowed to keep their tests, projects, assignments, and/or summative for exam review purpose? Students would feedback on their work for review and learning, however it is not clear whether there is a consistent practice allowing students to use their own work to study for exams.
Action: SSC members to send this question to their school councils for clarification or discussion if necessary. Feedback on this question will be included into the list for board presentation.

NEXT MEETING – (NO MEETING IN FEBURARY)

7-9pm, Thursday March 7, 2013 in the Fisher Park School library

MEETING AJOURNED

9:15pm