

French Advisory Committee Meeting

MINUTES

February 26, 2026

Time: 1:00-2:30

Venue: MSS Conference Room

Attendance

Present: Jory, Josée, John, Brandon, Sarah, Maria, Misty, Dave, Nicole M-S

Absent: Nicole S

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

-Land Acknowledgement (Misty)

Action Items from last meeting

- a. Dave send Nicole information about MSS Open House November 20
- b. Nicole M-S get FI Kindergarten-Graduation data
- c. Nicole M-S make a FI Facebook Page
- d. Nicole M-S set up FI Bulletin Board (*MSS leadership has taken over*)
- e. Nicole M-S communicate about Student/Parent voice sessions
- f. Nicole M-S communicate about FI information sessions
- g. Nicole M-S create PR/Kiosk presentation for November 20
- h. Nicole M-S create FI presentation for December 2
- i. Nicole M-S compile documents/info for FI page/website
- j. Nicole M-S ask Jory/Merrill/Caroline about pen pals – Left this for another year
- k. Nicole M-S reach out to four dual dogwood graduates
- l. Nicole M-S continue FI Alumni Spotlights
- m. Nicole M-S send out FI promotional videos

Recap of events & Upcoming Events

- Carnaval – January 26-30
 - successful event for our elementary students
 - Great Plan B edition from M Kzoski (mixed grade stations)
 - Future: Need to include/or offer event to MSS students
- PreK Events – Jan/February
 - Nicole and Grade 7 students visited Central and NC Strong Start Classrooms
 - Nicole and Grade 4-7 students hosted two events (one during school hours and one in the early evening) at Collettsville
 - Ready Set Learn visited Collettsville on February 17 – Great timing with K registration opening
 - Currently have 17 Kindergarten registrations

- F.I. Leadership class (2nd Semester)
 - New course being offered to grade 10-11 F.I. students
 - Course required to achieve enough French course credits
 - Working with Collettsville students and staff
 - Group visits Collettsville every Wednesday as a full group
 - Also offering small group and individual leadership opportunities
- Legislature Trip – March 3/4
 - Offered to our grade 6/7 students
 - Tour done in French
 - \$11,000 grant help cover trip expenses
 - Students will create a presentation to share their experience
- Québec Trip – April 20-24
 - This year's trip will take students to Montréal & Québec City
 - Planning has started for the 2027 trip
- Éloïz Concert– April 23
 - offered to grade 4-12 French Immersion students and grade 8-12 FSL students
 - Josée/Leadership students will be working on line dancing lessons
 - Sarah asked if anything could be offered to our primary students

Other Items

- n. **Student & Parent Voice Meetings**
 - i. Feedback from each group is attached*
 - ii. Common themes/focus points are attached*
 - iii. Do not need to meet with these groups again in May. We will put some items into action and talk with groups in the future.
- o. **Supporting FI program at high school/Student Retention**
 - i. Recap of/upcoming Information sessions
 - 1. MSS Open House
 - a. Not as much traffic as we had hoped but would like to continue to be included in this event
 - 2. December session: General French Immersion Information
 - a. 6 families in attendance (mostly primary aged families)
 - b. Well received/good feedback from families in attendance
 - 3. K French Immersion info night
 - a. For the first time ever, we had no families show up
 - b. The 2026/2027 K cohort is made up of many younger siblings.
 - c. We have 17 Kindergarten registrations, so we won't panic about the attendance for this event
 - 4. March session: Grade 6/7 transition to MSS FI information

- a. This event has be postponed to Tuesday March 31
 - b. Dave, Josée and Nicole will host the event
 - c. Encouraging both parents and students to attend
 - d. Give families an idea of what FI looks like at MSS and clear up misconceptions and allow Q & A
- ii. Student engagement
 1. Jory and Josée continuing to work on a yearlong collaborative project with 6/7s and MSS FI students
 - a. Great collaboration/connection opportunity for both groups
 - b. Grade 7s expressing they feel more comfortable
 - c. Jory feeling optimistic about bigger percentage of students sticking with FI as they move to MSS

p. Dual Dogwood Graduates Celebration

- i. This year
 1. Dual Dogwood Ceremony & dinner
 2. Invite FI community to ceremony but mainly a rite of passage for our graduates
 3. Dinner for graduates, their families and FI staff
 4. Dates that have been suggested are June 1, 2 or 8
- ii. Subcommittee
 1. Sub committee: Nicole, Maria, Jory
 2. Items to address: Catering, décor/setup, pins, coordinating grads, etc.
 3. John gave a bit of feedback on NVIT chef who is Métis. Will explore this option for event but also maybe some learning opportunities for next year. Needs to be September- April

q. Cultural Events

- i. Carnaval
 1. Event concerns
 - a. Concerns around families not understanding the cultural importance of the event (allowing children to stay home or booking vacations/trips)
 2. What we would like in the future
 - a. Be intentional with the event (explain the value in our Carnaval package, include Carnaval in our report card comments, have student projects/presentations)

- b. Create Facebook posts to explain the significance of Carnaval and its events. Make “Did you know” posts to share culture and history. Maybe high school FI students could help with this?

r. French Immersion Logo

- i. What is the process for creating a logo?
- ii. Misty enquired and we are welcome to move forward with creating a district F.I. K-12 logo. She recommended we engage stakeholders and rights holders. Final approval of the logo would be done by the district.

s. YMCA Youth Exchange (idea presented by John)

- i. For youth 11-18 years of age
- ii. Group gets paired with another group in Canada
- iii. Each group gets to visit the other
- iv. Host group takes care of billeting/entertainment/etc

Important/Suggested dates

Tuesday March 31 – Grade 7 French Immersion Information Session

~~Tuesday May 12 – Student voice meetings CV & MSS – ALL DAY * See notes above*~~

~~Thursday May 14 – Parent voice meetings CV & MSS – 6:30-7:30pm * See notes above*~~

June 1 - Dual Dogwood Ceremony –5:30-6:00 & Dinner 6:00-7:30

Action Items

Nicole M-S will look into French Performing Arts options for Primary Students

Nicole M-S will email Dual Dogwood subcommittee members

Nicole M-S will get some ideas started for a French Immersion logo

Next meeting date/time

- t. Thursday May 14 date @ SBO (**Misty** has booked the large board room)