

## Minutes June 19<sup>th</sup> 2024

### Special Meeting with CSF members-EDP Library and Zoom

Pascale Bernier, Director General of the CSF  
Bertrand Dupain, Acting Secretary-Treasurer  
Pascale Cyr, Director of Public Relations  
Jacques Dufresne, Advisor, South Shore Region

EDP In person Attendees: Melanie, Sara, Holly, Melanie, Tanya, Miguel, Robyn A, Deborah Allain, Melodie (Chat), Bryan, Lisette Sekaren, Renee, Albert, Steven, Marie-Pierre, Herve, Genevieve

Introduction of all in attendance. Familles, enseignants et CSF

Vision et mission du CSF: Article 23

Instruction complete de la M a 12 annee, ecoles homogene pour contrebalancer l'omnipresence de l'anglais a l'exterieur.

PowerPoint to be sent

Responses to Questions sent by l'APE:

-Time line: Approx 4 years Sept 2030 for new school-give or take

-Main thing is we have the land.

-Yes, community will be consulted from the beginning.

-Too early to give details of timeline/compositions/design of school. There are specifics re: architectural limitations, funding, there are certain things ie bathrooms parameters that are dictated by Minister. There will be consultation i.e. concepts like placement of library.

-Chatelech: possibilities of sharing some amenities ie) sports fields. Chat has a lot of amenities ie) band, workout gym, mechanic shop.

-Schedule would be linear year, different from the high school. Has to work on both sides.

-Parent feedback: how do we offer the HS students the choices of activities, clubs, social opportunities, CSF: #1 goal is ecole homogene, gives options after graduation. We have a good thing with the mixed HS experience with French and English opportunities. Its working well.

-Feel like we are not being heard about wanting a M-7 school, without consultation with the actual community. SD prioritizes health and mental wellbeing of children as #1.

-This decision is "so impactful"

-Each year we have to fight with the English school for space for French. students and get kicked out and closing down. We are renting and "hostage" to that school and their capacity. We would be sacrificed first.

- Budget very tight, using old budgets. SD schools get revenue from international students
- Q: How to recruit, retain quality French teachers? A: 2020 census 56,000 eligible students, 14,000 under age 5, 172 buses. Birth rate reducing, immigration growing.
- Recruitment/retention programs, Minister of Ed. Focus on indigenous Anti-racist education.
- Building a school based on 50 year projection.
- Melodie: too strong emphasis on francophonie-pushed too hard. Kids will reject this. Can we have immersion combo?
- CSF: It will not jump from M-12 right away. Progressive fashion.
- If we have our own building, we can rent to immersion, we have the power to make decisions. If it was half empty, we would rent it, with priority to our school. You need 100 students to be financially viable. They are being financed.
- M Sukaren: was a Chat teacher. The students felt good in Chat, had the choice of different opportunities. There used to be more French course choices. Teacher and student retention is key. We are a village here. Advocates for a mixed immersion/francophone school to share out new school.
- CSF: PLAN A try to fill it up, PLAN B, rent the extra space.
- Herve: Open the school's francophone criteria. In past, enrollment was higher with students who were not Francophone: great solution.
- CSF: International students would bring income. All the SDs are reliant in this.
- Deborah: 125, 60 when her kids were in school.
- Robyn: Teacher retention, issue in this community, they need FTEs or they will leave. Flexible/creative.
- Provincial: Rule re: Ayant Droits.
- Herve: We are an anglophone community. 90% of families are mainly speaking English at home.
- Melodie: 7 diff preps as a CSF teacher vs 3 as Immersion Teacher. Its arduous.
- CSF: Budgets tight with little surplus. Hoping for balanced budget next year and build a surplus slowly. We have more funding for special education "with designations A-H" for funding from MOI, counselling. Chart comparing other school boards: for every dollar SD gives \$1.40, CSF does \$2.20 which comes from operational funding.
- Tanya: how will you provide small number speciality classes that they need to get into post-secondary.
- Schools are offering 3 sciences, Online not great.
- Chloe-social implications of children being in small classes. Being heard by CSF and not feeling like there's a pre-set agenda. Appreciate this opportunity to speak directly with CSF reps.
- Realistically will be years before secondary is added and could be delayed due to zoning (example Victoria school was kicked out of SD). Melodie: could we work on portables to mitigate the risk.

-Albert: timing is key to work with current town counsel re: development.

-Pascale: plans to come back to the school again, meeting with all the schools. Open to having questions send as needed.