



Participant Evaluation Summary – Northwest and North Central French Immersion Program Engagement William Aberhart High School – March 21, 2018

Below you will find an evaluation summary with comments provided as they were written. Comments have not been edited for spelling, grammar, sentence structure or otherwise. Comments have been edited to ensure anonymity. We also edited or omitted abusive, discriminatory and otherwise inappropriate comments.

Number of participants in attendance: 50

Number of evaluations completed: 29

1) I was encouraged to share my thoughts and/or feedback during this engagement.

26 Agree **3** Somewhat Agree **0** Somewhat Disagree **0** Disagree **0** Not Applicable

2) I was able to ask questions and learn about the opportunity for input/feedback prior to my participation in this engagement.

22 Agree **6** Somewhat Agree **0** Somewhat Disagree **1** Disagree **0** Not Applicable

3) I had the information I needed to participate in a meaningful way.

19 Agree **8** Somewhat Agree **2** Somewhat Disagree **0** Disagree **0** Not Applicable

4) I was able to provide input on the best way for me to share my thoughts and ideas.

20 Agree **6** Somewhat Agree **2** Somewhat Disagree **1** Disagree **0** Not Applicable

5) I clearly understand all of the factors being considered in the decision-making process and which of these factors I can and cannot influence.

12 Agree **13** Somewhat Agree **3** Somewhat Disagree **1** Disagree **0** Not Applicable

6) My input was documented as part of the engagement process.

24 Agree **3** Somewhat Agree **1** Somewhat Disagree **0** Disagree **1** Not Applicable

7) What did you like most about this engagement?

Comment: 25 No Comment: 4

- All leaders available to speak with
- Opportunity to meet other parents and hear about the challenges facing the French Immersion program.

dialogue)))

- Organized, well thought out presentation and input activity. Well done!
- Good presentation
- Relaxed and talk to other parents re: their views
- Interesting opportunity to discuss issues with other parents. Really appreciated having administrators and directors available and circulating.
- Able to view options regarding changes that may occur. Open format to share my opinion.
- This event brought to light the difficulties CBE has before them.
- Excellent speaker clearly sharing info.
- I liked the way ideas were crowd sourced.
- It was early, nice to see principals attending
- Appreciate the transparency and agree we are all working together
- Open access to so many CBE staff.
- There was opportunity to voice concerns/opinions
- The opportunity to understand the options being considered
- I appreciated it occurred as a preliminary to what is going to occur and an opportunity to offer thoughts.
- Very open to input with lots of opportunity to comment.
- Both presentation and conversation pieces.
- Thank you for sharing and allowing for this opportunity.
- Lots of knowledgeable people around to answer questions.
- Being able to discuss with parents as well as with CBE staff on questions RE enrolment, boundaries and process to making decision.
- Very good to share my thoughts, concerns and ask questions. Great to have principals here to speak to and share ideas. Well presented, organized.
- I appreciated principals and CBE staff available to answer my questions during café time. They were all very knowledgeable.
- Liked seeing others ideas and being able to echo them
- Its interactive and gives one an idea of the position of things
- Loved being able to write my own questions and comments to tables. Brings up issues that may not have been considered.

8) What did you like least about this engagement?

Comment: 17 **No Comment: 12**

- Not knowing anything about the process of planning. I felt like I still wasn't completely sure what feedback would be most helpful for you.
 - Lotteries seem bad
 - Expanding programs costly
 - Moving and shifting kids not great for them
 - Hard choices!

dialogue)))

- I appreciate that you were trying to give us lots of time to talk but I would have actually preferred to hear more up front about some of the “combined options” that could potentially be on the table. It was hard to make recommendations with so little background knowledge.
- Would have liked to hear administrations personal views.
- Would have liked more Q&A
- Needed a bit more background of zones and enrolment
- It would be interesting to have a representative from the city planning dept. to look at growth trends within the city. I observe that many families with young children are choosing to live in walkable, inner city communities; many of these families are the “target market” for alternative programs. I see the demand for alternative programs in the inner city growing.
- Perhaps provide facilitator to engage at each table – some options/suggestions got off topic/didn't deal with elementary level issues.
- Nothing I can think of. Looking forward to High School engagement!
- The time is optimal for parents who work evenings
- It would have been nice to have more facilitation at tables
- More knowledge of all the schools in the area and their capacities
- N/A
- Some foregone assumptions:
 - Early French Immersion will have priority over Late FI if space is not available (at Branton)
 - Early FI is a Parent choice
 - Late FI is a Student choice
 - I like empowering the Student
- It would work better if there was a moderator at each station to help answer questions and drive conversation. It felt very stilted and very little engagement from actual admin staff.
- It seems like no one really knows what the plan is; given the limited options I would have appreciated some scenarios to discuss vs. obvious discussion of limited options (4)
- Did not feel it delved deep enough into how it is all connected (i.e., elementary, junior and senior high / French, Spanish, English). Most of the people I conversed with were on the very young end of the spectrum and opinions offered were from the perspective of keeping everyone close to home. Not enough foresight as to long-term impact.
- I think a more clear statement/recap of what the critical challenges and on what timeframe would ground the conversation more.
- Lack of options to give opinion on; its' hard to comment on boundary changes if I don't know how it will affect me (eg). BUT I understand why at this point options aren't available but I felt as though I didn't really have anything to say quite yet.

Other ideas

- Lobby Alberta Government to change School Act to create equal opportunity for French Immersion since it is Canada's official language.
- Seek philanthropists who could help provide money for new schools.