

## Executive Director's Report September 27, 2016 Annual General Meeting

It is with great pleasure that I present my annual report for the 2015-2016 school year. Offering a French first-language education recognized for its excellence and contribution to the sense of pride and belonging to the Francophonie continues to be our priority. École Émilie-Tremblay celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year and we commemorated this milestone with a gala at the Yukon Arts Centre that told the story of our beautiful school. I would also like to congratulate Manon Aubert who won the Government of Yukon Excellence in Education Award for her incredible contribution to education at Émilie Tremblay over many years.

At Académie Parhémie, we made changes in the allocation of classrooms to create a separate wing for our high school program. Also, we negotiated an agreement with the Government of Yukon to add another portable classroom for the next school year to accommodate the increasing number of students at the school. We also added a new bursary for our graduates, the *Official Languages Bursary*. It is awarded based on academic standards and recognizes students with a high level of bilingualism at the end of grade 12. For the first time, the CSFY offered distance education courses to high school students thanks to an agreement with the Centre francophone d'éducation à distance – CFED (*Francophone Distance Education Centre*). Académie Parhémie students participated in several field trips and activities during the year and the CSFY is proud to have sponsored the participation of two students in the leadership internships of the Association canadienne d'éducation de la langue française (ACELF) (*Association of Canadian French-Language Education*). A journalism club was created and students also took part in planning sessions for a new Francophone School Community Centre.

It was also the first year that the CSFY managed the students who are enrolled in the French home schooling program. Twelve students were registered in 2015-2016. From now on, this program will be called "école Nomade".

We also completed the planning phase for the new School Community Centre to accommodate students from grades 7 to 12. The project is progressing well and we hope to complete the design phase over the next year.

In the following sections, you will find the services, projects and efforts that we put in place to ensure the success and well-being of our students.

Marc Champagne, executive director

## **1. Curriculum and educational services**

---

In 2015-2016, 203 students attended Émilie Tremblay, from junior kindergarten to grade 6, and 41 students attended Académie Parhémie, from grades 7 to 12. Twelve students were enrolled in the French home schooling program, école Nomade.

The CSFY would like to thank staff members, parents and partners for their support, their valuable contributions and their involvement in the students' well-being and success. Thank you to all of our students who, every day, contribute to the development and vitality of the Francophone culture and language.

### **The following services were offered to students in 2015-2016.**

#### **Alternative class**

The alternative class offers services and support to students with learning or behavioural challenges.

#### **Learning Assistants**

Two teachers work full-time as learning assistants to support students in their learning and development.

#### **Counselling service**

The service helps students adapt and become more independent, and offers activities to develop their full potential. The service fosters students' well-being and feelings of competence.

#### **Francization service**

This service supports students with learning French. It is offered in a way that respects the child's personality and level of development. This program also involves collaboration with parents. Two staff members offer this service.

#### **Literacy service**

In collaboration with the teaching staff, two staff members provide students with support in reading and writing to better meet their needs and encourage the learning of language arts.

#### **Curriculum Advisors**

Two curriculum advisors work full-time with the teaching staff to develop programming and resources linked to the school curriculum.

#### **Guidance counsellor and student support**

A guidance service is available to help students from Académie Parhémie with their academic career choices.

#### **Information technology**

A technician ensures that information technology resources for staff and students run smoothly.

### **Early childhood and exogamy (bilingual and bicultural families) service**

The coordinator organizes various activities and conferences with local Francophone partners. She coordinates the Early Childhood Table, a subcommittee of the Education Community Partnership (PCÉ), which works together to offer services in French in early childhood.

### **Enrichment programs offered in addition to regular programming**

Various activities are offered throughout the year to elementary and secondary students. At the elementary level, students take part in sports activities with *Les boules de feu* (running and skiing) and do traditional French-Canadian dance with *les Souliers dansants*. At the high school level, students go on field trips and camping trips that enable them to develop interests and knowledge outside the classroom. Identity building, leadership, outdoors, and arts are some of the examples of additions to the programming.

## **2. Identity building**

---

Identity building is at the heart of our school's educational mission. In addition to cultural activities conducted by the teaching staff in classrooms, the position of cultural integration coordinator allows the culture to permeate the school all year long through various activities and opportunities. The coordinator also works with the Arts and culture, and Youth departments of the Association franco-yukonnaise to ensure a partnership between the school and the community. This person is also involved in the school cultural committee, the journalism club and student committee of Académie Parhémie.

Our students also take part in national gatherings in French where they can talk about their experiences with other Francophone youths. Two high school students, Pier-Anne Ménard and Dorothee Tölgyesi, took part in the Association canadienne d'éducation de la langue française (ACELF) (*Association of Canadian French-Language Education*) annual convention, from September 23 to 26 in Toronto.

A new journalism club was created in February 2015 for students at Académie Parhémie. The club is composed of high school students who share various tasks: journalism, photography and layout. The newspaper is published in the *Aurore boréale*. It presents activities at the school and recognizes the sports, academic, cultural and personal accomplishments of our students.

## **3. Involvement of the CSFY**

---

The CSFY continues to be involved in French-language education at all levels: regional, territorial and national. With these partnerships, the CSFY is better equipped to meet the needs of French First Language Education in a minority setting. The CSFY is involved in various committees, including the Fédération nationale des conseils scolaires francophones (FNCSF) (*National Federation of Francophone School Boards*), the Regroupement national des directions générales en éducation (RNDGÉ) (*National Group of Executive Directors in Education*); the Association des directions en éducation de l'Ouest et du Nord (ADÉON) (*Association of Western and Northern Directors in Education*); and the Association canadienne d'éducation de la langue française (ACELF) (*Association of Canadian French-Language Education*).

## **Community**

### **Education Community Partnership (PCÉ)**

The Education Community Partnership (PCÉ) is an advisory group comprised of executive directors of key partners in Yukon Francophone education. The CSFY provides administrative support for the PCÉ's meetings, assisting with planning and taking minutes during meetings. A first PCÉ newsletter was coordinated by the CSFY and published in the back-to-school insert in the *Aurore boréale*. The minutes of its meetings and its action plan can be found on the CSFY's website.

### **Garderie du petit cheval blanc**

The CSFY financially supports la Garderie du petit cheval blanc in its educational development and its website. The CSFY's early childhood coordinator also offers support and resources.

## **National**

### **FNCSF**

The annual convention of the Fédération nationale des conseils scolaires francophones (FNCSF) (*National Federation of Francophone School Boards*) took place in Newfoundland. The theme of the convention was: *Defining ourselves for action!* Our trustees Jean-Sébastien Blais and Gilbert Bradet participated with the executive director.

### **RNDGÉ**

The CSFY took part in the RNDGÉ's summer training session in August 2015 in Vancouver under the theme of communications.

## **4. School governance**

---

The CSFY works with the school administration team to develop a staffing allocation plan and offers the required support, based on the needs identified. Staff evaluation is in line with the Department of Education requirements. Staff evaluation is done by the administration team. The school principal is evaluated by the executive director of the CSFY.

All of the CSFY'S public meetings are in accordance with the requirements of the Education Act. The CSFY provides a copy of the minutes of every meeting to the Department of Education as required. The CSFY prepares an annual budget using the agreed upon funding formula. This budget is presented to the Department of Education according to the Education Act. Once the budget is adopted, the CSFY is responsible for monitoring it. A financial audit is done once a year and a copy is given to the Department of Education.

### **Strategies to recruit teaching staff**

The CSFY developed a new strategy to recruit teaching staff. The executive director took part in an education career fair at Campus St-Jean in Edmonton in January 2016. The aim of the fair was to allow for exchanges between future employers and students so that they were aware of the teaching realities and needs in the provinces and territories. Furthermore, in the spring of 2016, the CSFY contacted all the Canadian universities offering the teaching program in French to circulate our employment opportunities to graduates.

## 5. Highlights

---

### **Excellence in Education Awards**

Congratulations to Manon Aubert, a teacher at école Émilie Tremblay, who is the winner of the Yukon Excellence in Education Award for 2016. Her nomination stood out because of all the projects and activities that she organized outside of class hours, including The Little Prince play in 2011, the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Gala and the Flash mob, in addition to her constant desire to improve her teaching approach with new techniques and methods.

### **Evaluation of the results achieved through the new governance model**

In the spring of 2016, the CSFY issued a call for tender to find a company to survey students from grades 4 to 12, parents, staff and partners to determine the achievement of results targeted by the CSFY in our 2015-2018 strategic plan. The CLÉ was chosen to develop the survey and write the final report with recommendations.

Even though we are only in the first year of the strategic plan, the evaluation shows that there has been good progress. More specifically, with respect to the 24 targets in the strategic plan, 46% have been achieved or exceeded, 21% are almost achieved (with less than 5% variance from the target) and 33% have not yet been achieved.

### **Technology in the classroom**

In June 2016, the école Émilie Tremblay and Académie Parhémie received funding from the Education Innovation Fund to set up a project to introduce more technology into classrooms. This funding of \$6,000 will be invested to create a group of young “competent techies” and support the technology committee in its efforts. Among other things, this project will meet the curriculum implemented in our schools starting in 2017-2018. Furthermore, the Department of Education upgrades computer equipment in schools every four years. An agreement was reached with the Department of Education and funding of \$50,000 will be provided to upgrade the technology equipment in our schools.

### **Celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the école Émilie Tremblay**

With the financial support of *Fondation Éduquer en français* (the Educating in French Foundation), a gala to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the école Émilie Tremblay was organized at the Yukon Arts Centre on the evening of April 7, 2016. This gala highlighted the talents of all of our students through songs, skits, traditional dance, a video by our first graduate, archives from the beginning of our school, etc. Everyone contributed, from our junior kindergarten to grade 11 students, with staff members putting in countless hours of their time. The 300 spectators who attended and the 200 students who took part appreciated the liveliness and dynamism of our school and culture.

Thank you!