

Dalewood Home & School AND School Council Meeting Notes
January 18, 6:30 to 8:30pm

Present: Mary Scime (Temporary Principal), Joanne Hall (Incoming Permanent Principal), Kim Newcombe, Jeremy Abrahams, Joyann Kruizinga, Sue Hawthorne-Bate, Margaret Jobson, Louise Adam, Phyllis Connelly, Marie-Noelle Garber, Vanessa Hague, Wendy Leadbetter, Jill Macintosh, Dawn Gebara, Diane Crawshaw.

Regrets: Paul Agar (H&S Secretary), Nanci Simpson (Vice-Principal), Sharon Ricci

Minutes from the November 2010 meeting: posted on the school website.

INTRODUCTIONS

- On behalf of the parent community, Louise Adam made a brief presentation to recognize and thank both Mary Scime and Nanci Simpson as they move on at the end of January. We also welcomed Joanne Hall, the new incoming permanent principal who will start on January 31, along with David Thorne, the new vice-principal.
- Recognition for Phyllis Connelly, who will be leaving at the end of January to travel with her family, our thanks for your time and energy during the school year, bon voyage!
- Review of the handout that was circulated, "What's the Difference"? to update the group about the role of School Council and Home and School. Mary Scime also circulated the HWDSB School Council Policy. These documents can be found at the following links:
The Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations www.ofhas.ca and <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/parents/hsa/#a1>
School Council Page of the HWDSB website: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/schools/councils/#a1>
- Agreement reached that the format of the subsequent meetings would follow as outlined in the agenda.

HOME & SCHOOL REPORT – Louise Adam (Chair)

1. Membership Update – Sue Hawthorne-Bate

- Sue reminded the group that the H&S membership for Dalewood was currently dormant and circulated membership application/payment forms for those interested to re-activate the membership.
- Review and update H&S account balance.

2. Fundraising Initiatives

Louise provided an update for the following fundraising initiatives:

- **Soup Day** reminder - Jan 24, pots of soup needed to support the "Me to We" event.
- **Best Buy Grant** – unfortunately the submission was declined but our thanks to Paul Agar and students for taking leadership with this initiative and plans to re-apply for Fall 2011.
- **Family Beach Party** – review of a proposal to hold an event for families in Feb/March. Sharon Ricci has offered to take lead with planning the event. Confirmation of a date t.b.a.
- **Footsteps for Families** event – June 12, 2011. Consideration to attend this event and putting together a "Dalewood Team" in support of Ronald McDonald House. For more information see the following link: www.footstepsforfamilies.com

Discussion followed about planning for future fundraising initiatives and allocation of funds raised.

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3. Nutrition Program

- Louise mentioned that she will circulate a parent sign-up sheet for anyone interested in helping the existing group of parents, to volunteer with food pick up and distribution.
- The group reviewed the idea of approaching the parent community to contribute donations in support of the program, by means of an envelope being circulated home.
ACTION: Kim Newcombe motioned in support of this initiative, followed with a second motion of support by Jill McIntosh. Louise to speak with Kim Miller.

4. Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

Teacher appreciation week is in February 2011. A luncheon, breakfast or tea is currently being planned. *ACTION:* Louise to confirm with Joanne Hall re: date and time (Feb/March) suitable for staff, circulate a sign up form/contact Louise to support this event.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Mary Scime

Mary Scime conveyed her thanks for her time spent at Dalewood and reviewed some of the key goals she aimed to accomplish during her time here, including:

- Parental engagement
- Addressing and updating some of the physical environment needs of the school
- Updating the School Improvement Plan (SIP)
- Achieving cycle 1 of the Teaching Learning Critical Pathways (TLCP) framework
- Working toward the Growing Success initiatives (e.g. new report card format)

Report Cards – an update to the change in current achievement levels was circulated for review.

Concours Oratoire/Speeches – French Immersion students in grades 6 to 8 will participate once again this year. Currently English students do not participate in preparing speeches. Discussion followed about opportunities for both French Immersion and English students in the future.

School Band Trip – not enough students signed up to participate, trip will not happen this year.

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT – Kim Newcombe and Wendy Leadbetter (Co-Chairs)

1. **Communication update for parents** – please refer to the school website for various updates

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/dalewood/>

Sharon Ricci has agreed to take head up the communication sub-committee, and Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) to look into ways to better communicate with the parent community. Jill Macintosh indicated she would be interested in working with Sharon.

2. **School Policy and Procedures** – Principal Profile

Wendy and Kim currently working on creating a draft document, to be circulated to those interested in providing input via school council. The next item for review will be developing the School Council Constitution.

ACTION: completion of School Principal Profile by Jan 28, 2011

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3. School Council Representation and Subcommittees

There is a need to broaden the community representation of school council (more parents, non-parents such as teachers and community members, possibly from the Dalewood recreation centre). Those interested in being part of school council are encouraged to contact Wendy and Kim.

The following individuals are key contacts for the following sub-committees:

- Sharon Ricci – Communication and Parent Involvement (PIC)
- Jane Walker – Representative for Churchill Master Plan Advisory Group (Dalewood/Westdale)
- Sharon Ricci and Jane Walker – Representatives for the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) Secondary Schools: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/arc/> AND Elementary Schools: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/arcelementary/>
- Louise Adam – French Immersion Advisory Committee Representative (FIAC) and Canadian Parents for French (CPF) <http://www.cpf.ca/eng/home.html>

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION at NEXT MEETING:

- Update re: School Timetable for 2011-2012
- Student Grade 8 Awards/Recognition

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday Feb 15 at 6:30pm

Thank you.