

In attendance: Mrs. Scime, Principal; Mrs. Simpson, Vice-Principal; Mrs. Jobson, School Secretary, and 16 parents.

Louise Adam, Home & School Chair, welcomed all the participants.

The minutes from the Sept. 22 meeting were approved. It was suggested and agreed that a summary of the minutes be posted on the Dalewood Website.

A minute of silence was observed in memory of Lauren Packer who passed away a year ago.

Presentation from Beatrice Howell, former School Council Chair

Bea Howell presented last year' school council initiatives, which were primarily focused on boys learning needs and Dalewood's prohibitive to repair (PTR) status. She also provided an update about Dalewood's PTR situation: Dalewood and Prince Philips have been declared PTR. The City of Hamilton and the Board of Education will work in collaboration to build a new school, and the Dalewood Community Centre will be upgraded. A consultation process in the Westdale community will start in January.

Bea offered to help the future chair of the Dalewood School Council get started.

Principal's report

Mrs. Scime indicated that, while Dalewood is a PTR school, she intends to improve a few things in the building over the next couple of months, such as painting in the office and staff room and extra cleaning.

She praised Dalewood staff for their dedication and the school office administrators for a "perfect audit" recently. She also commented on the excellent results obtained by the students during some activities such as the cross-country meet at Christie Conservation Area and the indoor cycling event organized at Dalewood by the Cycling Development Centre.

Mrs. Scime indicated that the FI book room will be expanded and that boys' literacy and achievement will be a focus this year. A sub-committee of the school council should be created to help work on these topics.

Mrs. Scime explained that Dalewood current Code of Conduct needs to be reviewed to reflect current legislation. It should be based on the values of "respect" and "civility". Mrs. Scime will create a small committee of parents who will help update the Code.

Emergency Procedures – A fire drill was organized in October. A few modifications to the plan, such as the outside meeting place for staff and students, were made after the drill.

School Improvement Plan/TLCP – The plan has three goals: Achievement, Equity, Engagement. This year, the focus will be on writing. Comprehensive literacy requires large blocs of time, therefore the current timetable will be reviewed for next September. The number of periods in a day or the lengths of some periods could be modified. The main teacher would spend more time with his/her class.

Teachers Wish List – Mainly FI books and books for the library

Trips – Mrs. Scime explained the trip approval process at Dalewood. The school has a trip committee which oversees the big trips and the day trips. The trip to Vancouver was discussed. It still needs to be approved by the staff committee and the board.

Best Buy for Kids school grant – Mrs. Scime commented on the great work done by Paul Agar and his son and classmates to submit a presentation despite the tight deadline.

The roles of the School Council and Home & School were briefly reviewed by Mrs. Scime. It was agreed that the meetings should be held the same night. However, the agenda should be organized so that parents can attend the part of the meeting they are interested in. Mrs. Scime said that she would like to meet with potential school council candidates before next meeting.

Home & School:

\$15.00 membership cards will be available at next meeting.

Review of upcoming fundraisers – Citrus Fruit before Christmas; Sale of Poinsettias if Home&School is interested in taking this on.

Review of the CPF Flyer

Principal's replacement – Mrs. Scime promised a smooth and successful transition, but did not have any new information to communicate,

Envelopes to collect money for nutritious snack program – item to be discussed at next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd AT 6:30 PM