

Dalewood Elementary Accommodation Review Committee Meeting

Dalewood School

June 22, 2011

Minutes (Working Meeting #3)

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Chair –Krys Croxall

Voting Members – Suzanne Brown, Maria Carbone, Nadia Coakley, Pamela Irving, Anita McGowan, Kim Newcombe, Michael Reid, Kristen West

Non-Voting Members –Judith Bishop, Heidi Harper, Silvana Galli Lamarche, Joanne Hall, Margaret Jobson, Debra Lewis, Peter Martindale, Denise Minardi, Colleen Morgan, Michelle Rodney-Bartalos

Regrets

Voting Members –Juanita Parent, Emily Reid

Non-Voting Members – Brian McHattie

Resource Staff

Ellen Warling, Daniel Del Bianco, Ron Gowland.

Recording Secretary

Tracy McKillop

1. Call to Order – Superintendent Krys Croxall, Chair

Superintendent Krys Croxall welcomed everyone to the third working group meeting of the Dalewood ARC. She shared that this is the last meeting of this school year, with the next working group meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 7, 2011.

The Chair welcomed all members of the public in attendance. She stated that the working group meetings of the ARC differed slightly from the “town hall” style public meetings in that any one that was not a member of the ARC was there in an observing capacity only.

Superintendent Croxall stated that the working group meeting began later than normal in order to accommodate the school tours which took place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. She shared that the main focus of the evening was to review the data that has been distributed to the ARC over the last two working group meetings, the review and approval of the minutes and addressing any outstanding data requests before breaking for the summer. The meeting would conclude after reviewing any correspondence received through the ARC website and addressing the items under “other business”.

2.1 Additions/Deletions – 7.3 “Additional Meeting Dates” was added to the Agenda.

2.2 Approval of the Agenda -The agenda was approved by consensus.

3. Review of Data Requested by the Committee

The floor was opened up to ask any questions or share comments regarding the school tours.

Q. What are the renovation plans for the summer?

A. There are no plans for the three ARC schools. This is put on hold during the ARC process unless there are items that need to be addressed due to Health and Safety issues.

Q. What type of renovations will need to be made to Dalewood to accommodate the Board option?

A. Mr. Gowland indicated that work would be required on the heating system, water system, ventilation system as well as windows and the gym.

Q. Are there any changes to class spaces?

A. One of the advantages of the Dalewood facility is that we can change the size of the rooms with interior renovations without changing the brick and mortar. There is enough square footage in some of the classrooms that they can be subdivided. Most of the classrooms at Dalewood are larger than other schools.

Mr. Del Bianco took time to go over the information that was distributed to the Committee members and answer any questions that they had. He shared that the ReCAPP Data identifies all of the outstanding renewal needs of the schools. It is a software program that the Ministry of Education has implemented and it identifies all of the elements in a facility. ReCAPP determines the life cycle of these elements and school boards uses this as a bench mark or guide. If some of the elements are shown as “high and urgent” need then facility management will go to the school and investigate the condition of the element. If it is a “medium” need then the Principal will be consulted on the state of the element. If everything is shown to be in good shape then the item is pushed out for a few more years.

Mr. Gowland shared that sometimes once a repair has begun it is discovered that there is more involved therefore exceeding the original estimate.

Q. Why is there not an adjustment factor involved in the ReCAPP program?

A. There is a new system that the Province will be implementing over the next five years. It has modifications and factors.

C. Some Committee members feel that it is difficult to make a proper decision based on the ReCAPP information.

A. Mr. Del Bianco shared that the Board will be identifying just the “high and urgent” needs of the schools within the ARC in the fall to support the ARCs in making an informed decision.

A summary of the work that has been completed at each of the schools has been distributed.

Q. What year was PTR – Prohibitive to Repair – lifted?

A. It was lifted in 2008

Q. Were the boilers a part of that?

A. PTR looked at the entire building not a particular event.

Q. After the PTR was lifted where was the money spent?

A. Trustee Bishop shared that the money was spent on GR Allan and not Dalewood and Prince Philip because both of those schools were considered PTR. We now realize that there had been an error and those schools should not have been listed as PTR.

Mr. Gowland stated that in 2008/2009 money was spent on the ventilation and heating system as well as the removal of asbestos at GR Allan.

Mr. Del Bianco shared that the Committee has received a lot of enrolment data which included:

- By-school enrolment summaries.
- Historical enrolment by programs.
- Projected enrolment by programs.
- A report by the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (SPRC).
- Reports that were created by HWDSB for the Board of Trustees.

Ms. Warling explained how the enrolment by programs worked and the loading of the classrooms and the Ministry of Education guidelines.

Mr. Del Bianco shared that in September scatter plots will be distributed. There was a request to have the dots indicate the number of students that are associated with the dot as well as show where the boundaries are on the map.

Q. Can the classrooms at GR Allan and Prince Philip accommodate the same number of grade 8 students?

A. The answer was yes.

There was discussion on the Ministry of Education guidelines regarding allocation of students per classroom. For example primary grades 1, 2 & 3 are loaded at 20 students per class with a plus 10% allowance.

Q. Can more space be used by the Recreation Centre at Dalewood?

A. It was stated that due to the rotary and the timetable the school often requires the extra rooms. They currently have two portables that they use.

Full day Kindergarten will be implemented in GR Allan in 2013 and in Prince Philip in 2014. These classes are currently loaded at 20 students per class.

Q. Are there limitations on split classes?

A. There are no real restrictions on grade 1 to grade 8 splits; however, the Board does not like to offer a split class with less than 3 students in one of the grades.

The transportation money comes from the Ministry of Education. The Board can not take money saved on transportation and put it into the facilities.

HWDSB cannot put the full day kindergarten program into Prince Philip at the moment due to the ARC.

Hallways were not part of the building capacity. HWDSB is funded by students not by the square footage. Rooms have to be 700 sq ft to be designated as a classroom. There is a short fall in money due to the costs to run a school and what the schools get in funding which is why we have the ARCs.

It appears that Dalewood is costly to run because of shared costs with the recreation centre. Staff will attempt to summarize the operational costs of the community centre separate from the Dalewood School in September.

Q. Does the City of Hamilton have the right to pull out and move the recreation centre?

A. Ms. Warling asked the Committee members to please not base their decision on the recreation center. The City of Hamilton is waiting to see the decision of the ARC. The City would like to expand on this land and Councillor McHattie has voiced that this is their prime choice.

4.0 Minutes of the Working Group Meeting #2 (June 8, 2011)

4.1 Errors and Omissions – there was a minor change.

4.2. Approval of the Minutes - Approved as amended.

4.3 Business Arising from the Minutes – None

5.0 Minutes of the Public Meeting #2 (May 19, 2011)

5.1 Errors and Omissions – None.

5.2. Approval of the Minutes - Approved.

5.3 Business Arising from the Minutes – None

5.3.1 Debriefing of Meeting #2

The Committee members found it difficult to see the public speakers so perhaps they could move the microphone to the front of the room for the next public meeting.

5.3.2 Submissions to the ARC by members of the public

Some Committee members have had people inquire as to when they will receive the answers to their questions. Mr. Del Bianco stated that they are resources to the ARC Committee and can't answer all of the correspondence. They need to devote their time to the Committee and the information requested by the Committee. If, after reviewing the correspondence, the Committee members feel that there is something that needs to be addressed it is their responsibility to bring it forth to the group for discussion.

6.0 Correspondence – there was correspondence delivered to the Committee.

7.0 Other Business

7.1 Community Partnerships

Mr. Del Bianco shared that the Board is always exploring this option. An advertisement has gone out looking for compatible community partners. This must be on a cost recovery basis. The Committee members will receive this updated information in September.

7.2 Working Group Meeting #5 (September 29, 2011) – The Committee had consensus on moving the public meeting to September 27, 2011 at Dalewood and making September 14, 2011 a working group meeting at the Education Centre.

The September 29th meeting fell on Rosh Hashanah and has been re-scheduled for September 27, 2011, Public Meeting at Dalewood.

7.3 Additional meetings

A Committee member asked when the report had to be presented to the Director. Mr. Del Bianco stated that the date was October 28, 2011. The elementary ARCs do not run as long as the Secondary ARCs; however, if the Committee is not ready then they could ask for an extension which would then bump everything out.

Ms. Warling shared that they have heard a lot of scenarios coming forward from the members; however she asked if they could put together some scenarios that ARC resource staff could work on costing over the summer.

Some of the ideas were:

- No change with just renovations to the existing schools.
- The Board option.
- Prince Philip – triple language K-8 and GR Allan K-8 dual language.
- Prince Philip – French Immersion and GR Allan – English.
- K-8 at Dalewood and GR Allan.
- K-8 at Dalewood and Prince Philip.
- Canadian Martyrs and Prince Philip.
- A super school at each of the sites.
- GR Allan JK-8 French Immersion and English and Prince Philip JK-8 English, Mandarin, Gifted classes (Grade 5-8) and Special Education.

- If the students are crossing Main St. do they require bussing or at what age do they require bussing.

8. Adjournment – Consensus to adjourn was reached at 9:35 p.m.