

DALEWOOD SENIOR P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

November 21, 2011

PRESENT: Sue Dryczewycz, Amy Gavanac, Dave Goberdhan, Christine Graham, Lorraine Gower (Vice-Principal), Kim Robinson, Kathleen Schindel, Troy Wallace (Principal)

REGRETS: Linda Crouch

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2011 MINUTES:

- Minutes from October 2011 meeting approved by D. Goberdhan and seconded by C. Graham
- ACTION → S. Dryczewycz to send minutes to L. Gower who will circulate to parent group

FOLLOW-UP BUSINESS:

- Parent Involvement Committee – 21st Century Learners Conference
 - Well attended, great displays
 - Resiliency – creating a generation of kids who are self-indulgent, too many electronics
 - Need to be prepared for more give and take
 - Have some rules set in stone and some that are more flexible
 - Fundraising ideas such as Happy Being Me, Epicure
 - Extraordinary cheese dip fundraiser could hold before Christmas
 - Would obtain \$6 off of every one sold
 - Highlight of evening was the speakers
 - Worthwhile attending event
- Pizza Days & Hot lunches
 - Have received some positive feedback from a few students
 - Pizza company brought pizza late one day due to miscommunication between owner and his staff
 - ACTION → To continue with same company for month of December
- Career Day
 - Will occur in April
 - ACTION → L. Murray to contact some individuals
 - ACTION → To focus on in January
- Snack Program
 - Program is going well, wonderful parents are helping out
 - Every morning except Monday
 - Very well received, students are not abusing the program
 - Try to give carbohydrates with protein
 - Are receiving a few donations, mainly from Grade 5 students
 - Call Kelly Klassen, school secretary, if unable to assist
 - A couple of grade 8 students could fill in if needed
 - Want to keep area where clean apples clean
 - Could have an apple day
 - ACTION → K. Robinson to purchase disinfectant wipes at Costco and zip lock bags for spoons/apples to keep fruit clean
- School website
 - Thanks to C. Graham for keeping website up to date

- Unable to put documents in word format on website, need files in pdf format
- Photos may be a little out of date
- Must ensure have form authorizing use of photo before photo is posted
- In prior year, created list of students who did not return an authorization form
- Checked list to see if student returned form before posting photo
- Asked parents whether there was anything would like to see on website
- Willing to consider parent suggestions
- ACTION → T. Wallace to add tab and link to Facebook
- ACTION → Marion Jones to head up Facebook page
- ACTION → To advise staff to send anything to be posted to C. Graham in pdf format
- ACTION → To create list of students who did not return their authorization form
- Annie
 - 2/3 of school to attend on December 16
 - Will be programming at school for students not attending
 - ACTION → To give information to C. Graham for website
- Education Foundation of Niagara's Holly Jolly Celebration
 - To occur evening of Saturday November 26
 - \$40 per ticket
- Alvin Law Presentation
 - L. Crouch has most of the pricing
 - Need to confirm when he is available, estimated cost and determine whether viable fundraiser
 - Will also need to pay for his airfare, transportation and food
 - More economical if plan event for when he is already in town
 - Worthwhile to pursue even if don't raise funds
 - Could bring in as education program
 - For students in grade 7 to 12
 - Suggestion made to contact Governor Simcoe
 - First consider Grade 7 and 8 within our Board which would probably fill two shows
 - If response is good, could book him for an extra day
 - Share costs with high schools who also may be interested
 - Planning for February
 - ACTION → T. Wallace to confirm details and costs with L. Crouch

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Trip Survey To Parents
 - Have not sent home a formal response based on survey yet
 - 163 surveys received from intermediates which is a decent response
 - 78 preferred multnight, 85 voted for day trips
 - Want greatest number of students to participate
 - Larger trips will occur every other year
 - Problem occurs if Grade 8 student did not attend trip last year
 - Only 3 or 4 students from last year's Grade 7 classes did not go on trip last year
 - Looking at costs for Fort George where students could have an overnight trip in May
 - Annie trip for \$25 in December
 - Fort York and Royal Museum of Ontario in April
 - \$50-\$60 for coach bus, tour at fort and fee for museum
 - Also considering Fort Niagara which is in the U.S.

- Believe students may not need passports
- Last year Grade 7 to Bissells, Grade 8's to Sherkston in June
- Gives students 4 possible trips which families could decide whether to participate in
- T. Wallace willing to coordinate one fundraiser
- Would need volunteers to co-ordinate other fundraisers
- More straightforward order forms lead to easier fundraisers
- Could consider McMullen's cookie dough or Little Caesars
- Skiing trips was suggested
- Feel that the risks of skiing exceed the benefits for students who have never skied before
- Statistics from head injuries have increased significantly
- Is at the discretion of the school
- Other schools have students wear helmets
- Board policy does not allow wave park or waterslide
- Grade 5 classes are discussing a couple of locations for day trips
- Suggested Air War Plane or Dundurn Castle
- ACTION →T. Wallace to investigate requirements for students to cross the border
- ACTION →To include request for volunteers for fundraising in next newsletter
- Instructional Coach - Adolfo DiIrio
 - Things are going well
 - He covers 4 schools
 - Is at Dalewood for one week
 - Has strong technological background
- Coyotes
 - Sent notice home to parents to advise of sightings
 - Coyotes do live within residential settings
 - Can move 5 km in a day
 - Drawn to garbage or pet food
 - Are standoffish, will not approach people
 - Had a couple of wild turkeys
 - Government's position is that wildlife and people live side by side
 - Unless become a nuisance, they will coexist
 - Don't approach, back away, don't turn your back to them, make noises to scare them away
 - Have talked to students
 - Suggest that pets are not left out at night if your yard is not enclosed
- South St. Catharines Accommodations Review
 - Goal of committee is to take a look at schools under review and make recommendations to trustees
 - West Park, Sir Winston, Thorold and Kernahan Park are currently under review
 - Have already been a series of meetings
 - Next meeting is at Kernahan next Thursday at 6:00
 - Public will have opportunity to respond
 - Process will occur until March
 - Final report to Trustees who have authority to make final decision
 - There are an excess number of pupil places within those high schools
 - 22 high schools which could probably be placed into 14 high schools
 - DSBN has the oldest buildings in the province
 - Various possibilities such as close a school and renovate and add an addition onto an existing school

- Course selections are limited in high schools with smaller attendance
- When deciding to close school, also need to consider programming and ensure offered at another location
- Progress Reports and interviews
 - Progress reports went out
 - Interviews still being completed
 - Parents enjoyed including their children in the interview
 - Design was new by Province, unable to return comments unless cutoff learning skills
 - The 6 learning skills build the student or the achievement
 - If have good learning skills, marks will fall into place
 - Use to be 9 learning skills which were too many since some overlapping
 - Will see more personal comments in learning skills section
- Dalewood 50th Reunion
 - To occur May 12
 - Still planning
 - Business cards have been made with reunion date and other information
 - Parents able to take some to distribute
 - Some are being dropped off at local businesses
 - Open house at Dalewood, arrangements to be made with a local restaurant such as Stellas
 - Next meeting is November 30 at 3:30
 - Parents are welcome at the meeting
 - ACTION → T. Wallace to call Stellas, legion in Port Dalhousie

OTHER ITEMS & QUESTIONS:

- Scientists in School
 - Info given to T. Wallace
 - For Grade 5 - 8
 - Classroom or Club
- Christmas Concert
 - At Governor Simcoe on December 15 at 7pm
 - Variety show
 - 60 to 90 minutes
 - Dress rehearsal matinee at 1:30
 - Suggested limiting tickets per family to 3 for evening performance
 - Could charge \$2 per ticket or have a donation jar
 - Motion made by K. Schindel and seconded by K. Robinson to charge \$2.00 for evening performance to support Dalewood arts program
 - Could sell tickets on first come first serve basis
 - Will keep price at \$2 if offer a second evening performance
 - Could offer separate junior and intermediate performance next year
 - Could record and sell CD's
 - ACTION → To include details in newsletter including encouraging grandparents and feeder schools to attend matinee performance due to overcrowding in evening and ability to purchase CD of concert
 - ACTION → K. Schindel and L. Gower to contact possible recorder
- The Lunch Lady
 - Previously called Lunch Connection
 - Offers new meals and new deals

- Meets health guidelines
- Cost of \$5 for meal, drink and side dish with \$0.35 profit per meal
- Effortless, majority of work done by company
- Could offer weekly or biweekly by requesting order once per month or online orders
- ACTION → To look into and set up a month's trial

NEXT MEETING:

- Next meeting will be held on January 23, 2011 at 6:30 in the library
- Christine approved the adjournment

Recorder: Sue Dryczewycz

Principal: Troy Wallace