

WEST DALHOUSIE SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 4, 2010

Meeting called to order at: 7:05pm

Attendance: MB, CM, BW, KB, GC, KP, KW, CW, MF, PS, LZ, BdV, TS, MED.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by MB to approve meeting minutes from January 2010.

Seconded by KB.

Motion approved.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL

a) School Accommodation

GC reported that the decision put forward on this issue has been accepted by the trustees "as is". The current grade 2s and 3s will come to WDS and the current grade 4s and 5s will have the option of staying at Dalhousie School. A letter will be going home to parents of these Dalhousie School children, asking for their intentions for next year - ie., stay at Dalhousie School or move to WDS. Intentions are to be made known by Feb 19/10 so that by spring break the two schools will have enough information to start planning for next year.

b) Mary Ellen Dewar, Principal of HD Cartwright

MD discussed the transition from grade 6 to junior high school, noting that it is a time of incredible change for children in terms of brain development (article attached). She also discussed the school's current emphasis on "community" in the school, and answered questions put forward by parents. There will be an open house at HDC on march 11/10 at 7pm.

c) Kevin Whitton presents English Language Development - How do we Learn English?

KW presented a slide show entitled "Systematic English Language Development" which discussed the scope and sequence of how language is acquired. He also described how these learnings are being incorporated into the day to day teaching at WDS.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Family Dance Update

Dance instructor, AB will start at the school on Monday Feb. 8, 2010. The band manager will be sitting in on one of her classes in order to help coordinate the band and dance components of the Family Dance event. Door open on Feb. 25th at 6:15pm. Insurance coverage for the family dance was discussed and it was decided that no special coverage will be required.

b) Process for Accounting Reviews

To be tabled at the next meeting.

4. UPDATES FROM COMMITTEES

a. Volunteer

Nothing to report.

b. Treasurer

Total cash on hand = (approximately) \$7000.00.

c. Naturalization

BW reported that the Naturalization Committee will have a meeting next month.

d. Key Communicator

MB reported that there are 2 meetings coming up if any volunteers are willing to go on behalf of School Council and report back: i) Feb. 24th with the area director; ii) March 10th, the CBE System general meeting. Both are at 7pm until approximately 8:30pm. For further information contact MB.

Motion by PS to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm.

Seconded by MB.

Motion approved.

7. Next meeting March 4, 2010 @ 7pm.