

Education Committee Meeting – June 11, 2014

Attendees: Sarah, Dawn, Kirsti, Tara, Julia, Lori, Regan, Anne, Nancy - chair

Regrets: Liz, Danielle

Agenda:

1. Naturalized play ground
2. Earth friendly festival
3. Healthy living unit
4. Field trips for next year

Naturalized play areas

Regan proposed to create play areas that would be mostly made of and built with the natural environment. She showed possible structures that could be made: a woven branch hut, teepee, shade shelter, log benches, log play-blocks. She suggested clearing out the dead under branches from the woods to make the area safer and create under-tree play areas.

Trees downed by the ice storm might be able to provide free material. Parents and children could create it in a weekend.

Dawn suggested that Paco could be helpful with the creation of the teepee. She also has some material that could be used as a sun-shade.

Regan will prepare a more thorough proposal to eventually present to Pastor Carl and the church board. The earliest time to do the potential work would be in the next school year.

Earth friendly festival

This would not take place until next spring therefore it was not necessary to discuss the festival until the next school year.

Healthy living unit

This year-long unit is to be about healthy living/eating and would be interwoven into the school year curriculum.

Parents and suitable friends of Headwater Hills will be invited to share their experience and expert knowledge of healthy living with the students in the form of a half-day workshop. This would occur roughly once per month. The unit would start with lessons in general nutrition. Some special workshop topics might include: food preservation, personal care products (Kirsti), making guacamole, bread making, juicing, yoga/zumba

There were concerns about how a workshop might be made suitable for the wide variety of ages in the school. Lori and Regan were not too concerned about that and felt that the teachers can help to break it down; a meeting between teachers and volunteer should be part of the workshop.

Nancy will send out an email asking for volunteers from the parent body.

The unit will begin in September with general nutrition. Concerns for all nutrition opinions will be a priority.

Sister schools have had their children take part in 2 & 5 km runs. Lori mentioned that there are such runs near Orangeville. (Island Lake Run?). Regan talked about the Mud runs that Carter and his family do. This would be suitable for Casa aged children, although it is down in Brampton.

Field Trips

Kirsti suggested some field trips for next year.

- Everdale Farm – they offer a variety of topics.
- the ROM - \$16 for a guided topic

Going on the Albion Orchards trip again was also suggested. Albion Orchards is nearby but an organic orchard might be preferable (in Innisfil?) The drive is longer, however, so the group was undecided about which would be preferable.