

## DREAMACRES COMMITTEE MEETING, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2004

### ATTENDANCE

Karen Brock, Maggie Linton, Marius de Bruyn, Sharon O'Donnell, Danielle Schaad, and Ruth Borst.

### CONTRIBUTION COUNT

Meeting Hours: 2 x 7: 12.5 hours

Professional Meeting Hours: 2.5 hours

### Joy and Sorrow

The year started off with both joy and sorrow for Dreamacres. On the night of Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, four of the trees planted last year at the back of the school were badly vandalized and irreparably damaged. Within days of this happening, however, *Dreamacres*, the Grade 2 social studies book produced by Nelson Publishing, arrived at the school. The book represents a wonderful celebration of the Dreamacres project from its beginning to the opening of the Butterfly Garden in May 2003. The books will be offered for sale to Sunningdale families at a cost of \$10 each (order forms to go out in a later mailing). Profits from the sale will go towards buying trees to replace those that were damaged.

### Vandalism

The cost of replacing the trees is estimated to be about \$150 per tree, plus tax, plus delivery. Some of the bird houses were also vandalized on the same evening. We will make enquiries with the Board if the school is/can be insured for this type of damage.

### The spring "Dig-In"

Thursday, 6 May.

Most of the meeting was spent brainstorming for the Dig-In, which this year will be an all-day event, including the evening. Day-time activities will take place both indoors and outdoors, will involve all classes, and will form part of the curriculum. The usual jobs of digging and planting and spreading woodchips will be done, but there will be other activities too. Some suggestions were:

Scavenger hunt

Clean-up

Weeding

Orienteering

Grade 1s planting vegetables

Grade 3s planting vegetables

Planting of sunflower seeds

Guess the number of pumpkin seeds in a jar

Ring toss on flower pots

Ice cream and water station

Building bird houses

Yellow fish program in the community

Spreading woodchips

Movies (*Crack in the Pavement*, *The People in the Garbage*)

Drumming circle

Making celebration sticks - painting & decorating. (Appeal to go out to all classes in advance to collect ribbon, corks, feathers, shells, bottle caps, beads, buttons, glitter paint, frozen juice can lids, pipe cleaners – a box to be kept in each classroom).

Composing a chant for the celebration stick finale

Inspirational speakers – on composting, (Crawford Lake/Mountsberg, Bronte Park?) “best lunches in the world” (Alternatives, Halton Region, Hospital?)

The day would be organized in much the same manner as Carnival, with 40 teams, half of which would be inside at any one time. There would be ten activities outside, and approximately the same number inside. There would be two assemblies.

**Next meeting.**

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April** at 7:00 p.m. in the school library.