

Minute of Parent Council Meeting held on Thursday 24th November at 3.30pm in the Principal's Office

Present: David Young – Head Teacher
Amanda Campbell (Chair)
Ollie Clegg (Deputy Chair)
Ken Campbell (Treasurer)
Anne-Marie Mooney (Clerk)

Apologies: Jackie Smith

1. Minute of Last Meeting

The minute of the meeting held on 7 June 2016 was approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

3G Pitches

Parent Council members raised concerns with the proposed funding model and the limited access to pitches for the community re the proposal for 3G pitches to be part funded by Hutchison Vale Community Sports Football Club; Cashback for Communities Fund and a Council loan to be met by the school. DY has not received any communication to date from R Yellowlees or C Fullerton regarding the proposal.

KC asked about WHEC school sports facilities passing to Edinburgh Leisure, DY has had no communication on the transfer of WHEC facilities to Edinburgh Leisure.

OC will raise the 3G pitches proposal informally at the next Community Council meeting (7 December 2016).

2. Head Teacher's Report

Staffing

- Alasdair Reid was appointed as Curriculum Leader, Languages in October.
- Claire Dancer has been appointed to a promoted post as Pupil Support Leader working 2 days per week.
- Mhari Paton joins us as Curriculum Leader for Health & Wellbeing before the end of term to replace Krystina Macsween who is now Depute Head Teacher at Braidburn school.
- David Gribben will take up Maths teacher post at the start of the new term in January to replace Paul Stewart who is moving to Beeslack HS, Midlothian.
- John Sloan, English teacher will be taking up a peripatetic post with the Additional Support for Learning Service starting on 9 January 2017.
- Jess Simpson, Home Economics teacher left us in October to take up a post at Craigroyston HS.
- Christine Ritchie, Counsellor is no longer working at the school and will not be replaced. DY acknowledged that the quality of counselling service was good but not available every day. DY recalibrating support with funding as part of inclusion

priority to be used to create a post to support the most vulnerable students in school on a full time basis as part of the support framework instead.

DY envisages support in 3 stages:

1. Universal support
2. Focused support
3. Targeted support

Any student with mental health issues are referred to CAMHS for qualified diagnosis and specialist services. Parent Council raised concerns about how quickly students can access mental health support and the lengthy waiting time for access to CAMHS service.

Scottish Attainment Challenge

As part of the Scottish Government's initiative to achieve equity in outcomes for all students funding is to be allocated to schools. DY is looking to create bespoke posts to achieve improvements: a literacy and numeracy advisor for the school; a STEM co-ordinator linked to science and the world of work; a cycling co-ordinator to create a cycling community and a post to lead on equity across the school.

School Newsletter

A winter newsletter is in production to be distributed out to parents/carers this month.

Project Wonderland

The whole school will be going on a trip to the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday 30 November to see 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' as part of the forthcoming Inter Disciplinary Learning project taking place 13 – 15 December.

Class Act Silver

Senior students will have their work performed by actors tonight at the Traverse Theatre, DY to attend.

Peers in Schools

The Earl of Kinnoull, a member of the House of Lords, visited the school last Friday to speak to Modern Studies students.

Rock Trust Sleep Out

Students and staff from the school will be sleeping out overnight on Friday 25 November to raise funds to help homeless young people in Edinburgh.

Prospect Community Housing

DY attended meeting to discuss the support and links to projects involving the school provided by Prospect Housing.

Survey Monkey

The school now has a Survey Monkey account; students will be creating a survey about attendance/lateness which will also go out to parents/carers.

Curriculum Review

Pupils have already been consulted, views to be sought from parents/carers and will be shared with the Parent Council.

Building Works

The school Admin offices and Leisure offices are scheduled for refurbishment in February/March 2017. DY also looking at revamping signage and the front entrance to the school to incorporate the heritage of the community.

3. Treasurers Report

The balance of the Parent Council account is £695.99; the Parent Council are happy to support school projects.

4. School Blazers

The Parent Council are willing to help families which may need help funding the purchase of blazers especially where they have more than one child attending the school, Guidance to help identify.

5. Any Other Business

Prefects

DY is keen to promote leadership across the school. A Prefect structure is currently being put in place with applications from S5 and S6 initially, this can be expanded to include other year groups.

School Choir

There will be a Christmas carol concert on Tuesday 6 December organised by Eden Brown who is our probationer Music teacher.

Senior Team Presence

DY and Deputy Heads have been outside the school in the morning and at lunch break; they are able to get a good indicator on any potential issues before the school day starts and monitor lateness.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 19th January at 4.00pm.