

Deans Community High School Parent Council

Tuesday 21st January 2014

6pm

Meeting Room within DCHS.

Present

Chair: Sue Mackie
Treasurer: Susan Hodge
Head Teacher: Susan Cook (SC)
Parent members: Kirsteen Salen
Jacqueline Baird
Anne Runciman
Jill Robertson
Janet Stewart
Councillors: Cllr Andrew Miller
Cllr Anne McMillan

Apologies

Cllr Angela Moohan, Alison Smith and Julie Fletcher.

Welcome

The meeting was opened by Sue Mackie who welcomed all present. New member Janet Stewart was welcomed and introductions were made.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes from Previous meeting were read and agreed.

Treasurers Report

Nothing to report.

Head Teachers Update

Website - Alison is working towards having a Parent Council tab added to the school website, allowing for information to be accessed by parents.

Anywhere/Anytime Learning – Unfortunately this has not been authorised by council, IT services are currently looking at policies. Pupils are currently using personal 3G within the school.

Jacqueline Baird reported that Bathgate Academy has piloted the service and there are no apparent issues surrounding this.

Cllr Miller advised that there are concerns regarding the use of internet by students, if he receives information regarding it he will pass it back to the school.

Susan Cook advised that there are funds available in the new budget to allow for further tablets and mini PCs to be purchased for use within the school.

Friday Night Project – If any parents wish to assist with supervision at the Friday Night Project they should provide school with 2 forms of identification, passport/driving licence/utility bill etc. These will be photocopied and returned. School will pay for PVG.

Simply Play – No solution found in relation to the use of the canteen by school, although only required for 7 nights per year. The care commission has been approached re: simply play being permitted to use the gym for the 7 nights. The gym is unsuitable for use for parents night due to its location and the damage caused to floor by footwear.

ACTION – Susan Hodge to draft a letter to Simply Play expressing concerns for parents in relation to this. Draft to be circulate for appraisal prior to sending.

Christmas Fayre –Susan Mackie reported that the Fayre was a success raising over £1500 for school funds.

Staffing – The Business dept has had problems lately with one teacher off long term sick and the lack of substitute teachers available. 2 posts have been filled recently in Technologies and PTC support. The librarians post is open and will be advertised in the near future. Until then Susan McCabe will be filling the post.

Celebrating Success ceremony – Good feedback was received from students following the ceremony which was carried out in the assembly at the end of term. The ceremony celebrated successes both in and out of school.

Primary School transitions – The schools are taking a more joined approach to ensure stability for pupils requiring support and that all schools are taking the same approach to the transition between P& & S1.

Cllr Miller enquired into the transition between Seafield primary and the school in 2013, Susan Cook reported that it was very positive, although there have been a few problems in relation to transport and behaviour on the school bus. This led to a general discussion about the parking on the drive at the end of the school day. Cllr Miller asked if the school campus officer could get more involved, Susan Cook advised that due to a significant reduction in his hours within the school he has less time to commit to traffic problems, but will ask him to give the area extra attention when possible.