

# Parent Council Meeting Minute

**Tuesday 29 November 2016**

**Present:** Mark Cockburn, Caroline Bennett, Sandra Fannon and Pauline Allison

**Apologies:** Jacqui Baird, Angela Ritchie, Anne Runciman and Linda Irvine

1. Minutes of previous meeting were handed out and agreed by Parent Council

**Buses** Concerns were raised over some students throwing sweets etc on the Seafield bus. P Allison will speak to students regarding this.

Students from Seafield are currently unable to get direct public transport to the Deans area out with school hours. This reduces their ability to attend after school clubs and meet with friends from this area. M Cockburn is to contact bus companies to ask if any additional routes could be added.

**Twilight Classes** Following staff consultation, it was agreed that twilight classes will continue to run as per current practice.

**Study Classes** Comments from the previous meeting are being taken into consideration as part of the ongoing evaluation of the new curriculum.

## 2. Head Teacher Update/Report

a) Staffing Vicky Porteous currently seconded to Whitburn Academy as Acting HT, will return after Christmas.

Gemma Thomson Acting PTC Support.

Suzy Muirhead has been appointed Acting PTC Social Subjects at the James Young High School, probably starting after Christmas.

b) VSE The findings of the recent VSE were discussed along with planned action being taken for improvements.

c) Continuing to review and evaluate the new curriculum model.

d) News

- School Show, The Wiz, on 11 – 13 October – fantastic performances from students and those involved in the production.
- Students from Deans who are members of West Lothian Schools Pipe Band Drum Corp performed at the West Lothian British Legion Festival of Remembrance.
- S2 Careers information sessions being offered by Evelyn Rogers.

- WL Cross Country Competition medals: 4 gold, 4 silver, 12 bronze.
- West Lothian Schools Dance Competition – Junior Team came 1<sup>st</sup> and Senior Team came 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- 10 S2 students made it the finals of the inter-school Construction and Build Environment Challenge (CABEC) at West Lothian College.
- Employability Day – S5
- Our S3/4 and S5/6 handball teams returned to Deans on Friday with BOTH Scottish Schools' Handball trophies
- Debating team won the St. Andrew's Day Debate at main chamber of the Scottish Parliament yesterday.

e) Scottish Government consultation on school governance was discussed. P Allison encouraged all to respond and will post details on the school website etc for other parents/carers.

### **3. Role of Parent Council**

A discussion took place on ways to encourage more parents to become involved in the Parent Council and how to get information out to them. P Allison will add a section to the next two newsletters.

### **4. Use of School Library**

The possibility of students using the library after school was discussed. P Allison explained that the librarian is contracted to set hours and could therefore not man the library at these times.

**Date and time next meeting:** Tuesday 31 January at 6pm