

Minutes of Parent Council Meeting 24 November 2015

Present:

Mark Cockburn
Jacqueline Baird
Anne Runciman
Angela Ritchie
Linda Irvine
Pauline Allison (HT)

Amendments are to be made to previous meetings minutes.

New dinner card system discussed and how it should operate.

- Information to be put out to parents in due course

School bus

- Mark Cockburn contacted Sue. As yet, there is no reply but hoping for a response by next parent council meeting
- Mark found another email address re the bus and is going to try and contact using that.
- Bus passes are still not being checked regularly and it is felt that some passes aren't being used effectively.

Reporting absences

- Asked if mobile number can be given /used to report absences as phoning during time given can sometimes be difficult.
- No system out with school hours. 8am opening for PSA staff.
- School phone number to be used and PSA option selected.
- HT stated that all absences must be reported but escalation to next level has different times further up school children/young people are from primary school.

FAQ

- HT presented parent council with list of most FAQ hopefully to go online to assist parents.
- EMA: To be written in full for clearer guidance. Education Maintenance Allowance.

Stairways

- Present system being looked at by students and staff.

Mornings

- Pupils now cannot go to tutor class in mornings before set time as no supervision.

School Budget

- Breakdown of school budget report from West Lothian Council given to Parent Council. HT talked through budget and breakdown.

Staff

- Ed Hill appointed Acting PTC Science.
- Vacancy: Acting PTC Technologies.
- English: Currently still trying to attract a supply teacher.
Department ensuring all exam classes are covered and staff doing their best.
- HT advised this was raised at a recent HT meeting.
- To advertise from monthly to fortnightly on My Job Scotland.

Achievements

Congratulations go to the following:

- Craig McLean who won a Stellar Award.

- PE who won Team of the Year at the West Lothian Celebrating Success Awards.
- West Lothian Pipe Band who won a Stellar Award
- S5/6 Basketball champions
- Senior students also won the WLC Dance Championship competition.

Fashion Show

- Charity fashion show went very well and students were commended on their planning and organisation of the event.

Employability Day and Evening

- All year groups welcome to attend and not limiting evening to senior school only.

Concert Band

- 6 December 2015 performance

School Music Concert

- 9th & 10th December 2015.
- Requested that all participants are given time in advance of taking part – not all pupils aware they were part of music concert. i.e. Pipe Band.

Exams

- Practise exams – starting Monday for some S4 students

Blazers

- Student council put forward request as many children are interested in blazers.
- They would not be compulsory.
- Brochure for eco blazer £29.50 with badge and braiding shown to parent council.
- Company to come into school to speak to Student Council and Parent Council.
- Parent Council agreed they are nice, smart especially if representing the school.

S4 Parents Night

- Timing of parents' night discussed.
- Parents' night currently held before exams.

Reports

- The W/G and T/G on reports can be confusing for parents and some students.
- Letters of the T/G and W/G possibly open to interpretation.
- HT discussed if the issue was across the board and that as a school we could tighten this up a bit and is keen for this to happen.
- HT wants staff to have a conversation with students prior to report so nothing is of surprise.
- Evaluation of this is ongoing.

Remembrance Service

- Linda Irvine wanted to congratulate all involved in the senior remembrance assembly as it was very poignant and touching.

Parking

- Parking at the end of the day was discussed, notably with regards to some irresponsible parking.

ACTION:

PC Corner out when possible

Text to be sent to parents re parking.

Date/Time next meeting: January 26th 2016 at 6pm.