

Deans Community High School Parent Council Meeting
30th May 2017
Minutes

PRESENT: Mark Cockburn, Angela Ritchie, Sandra Fannon, Anne Runciman, Jacqueline Baird, Pauline Allison (HT), Dawn Fleming (DHT), Andrew Miller (W L Councillor)

APOLOGIES: Carolyn Bennett

E-MAILS:

Up to date e-mail addresses were provided to chairperson by parent council members.

SIXTH YEAR LAST DAY;

This day went well and students were a credit to the school. Both Laser-Quest/Dodgems & Movie /Pizza within school were enjoyed.

HEAD TEACHERS REPORT;

a. Staffing

Long term absence: C Greenhalgh

Yutta Groom –Acting PT Support at The James Young High School from August

Andy Howat – Acting PTC at Linlithgow Academy from August

Vicky Porteous – Head Teacher at Hawick High School from August

Carol Mordaunt – Maternity Leave from August

Gail Hope – Appointed Acting DHT Support from August

Sarah Saum – Appointed Support for Learning Teacher from August

Douglas Anderson – Appointed Music Teacher

Kathryn MacDonald – Appointed English Teacher

Callum Crosser – Temporary PE Teacher from August

Lauren Riddell – Temporary PE Teacher from August

Probationer Teachers from August in Chemistry, PE, RMPS and Modern Studies

b. Parental survey results were discussed.

c. Pupil Equity Funding

Steering group meeting for the first time

d. Didbook demonstration

D.Fleming gave presentation of Did-book. To be relaunched to students Aug 2017 - S1-S3 to begin with.

Purposes

- students record education journey

- Better showcase of students achievements
 - Helps UCAS/College/Job application
 - School will help, support & monitor to ensure appropriate use
 - Will be quality v quantity support to showcase best potential
 - It is not facebook
 - Staff, tutors etc will use 'prompts' on system to support updates
 - Should all be carried out in natural helpful supported manner
 - Examples of 'entries' can be given but at all times students expected to give honest entries & comments (parent council shown examples of entries)
 - Teachers in all subjects can access and get to know pupils better or engage better
 - Targets can be recorded
 - Wider achievements outside school recorded
 - On going & continuous recording provides more natural entries at moments of achievement rather than previously set specific weeks for recording. (Trying to remember sometimes difficult , time consuming)
 - Parents will need child to agree to give access to password as school not issuing to parents.
- Responsibility is on students to keep up to date - responsible citizens, successful learners attributes can be shown in doing so.
- Miss D Lindsay assisting P7 launch. Entries can be built from primary school

A discussion then took place around this.

SEAFIELD BUS;

Bus company recently changed. Prentice buses have taken over contract

A.O.B

- (i) **THIRD/FOURTH YEAR**
8 subjects reduces to 6. Therefore spent time studying subject with nothing to show. HT explained learned under BGE however only in senior phase are there exams.
- (ii) **MUSIC**
Situations where by students learning piece(s) of work for practical Nat 5 then having to change. SQA would keep schools up to date with compulsory and/or guidelines. Occasionally practical pieces will need to be updated if guidelines change.
- (iii) **STUDY LEAVE**
A thank you to all staff who offered help & support during study leave period.
- (iv) **CATCH UP OF WORK IF ABSENT;**
Pupils always encouraged to catch up on any work missed in class. What should students do?
-Talk to class teacher
-Talk to Head of House
- Use resources such as glow
- (v) **STUDENT OPINIONS**

Discussion on recent student voice exercise.

HT unaware of any specific questionnaire/survey but will look into. However HT advised good links with student council and as a school do listen to student voices.

- (vi) TEAM JAK
Did DCHS take part? HT not aware but possible charity committee contacted direct.
Further information to be given by LI next meeting
- (vii) RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
To ensure all religions/beliefs are being respected equally and staff give no indication on their own personal views.
- (viii) REFERENCE TO STUDENTS BY STAFF
Discussion on use of generic terms.
- (ix) FRIDAY NIGHT PROJECT;
This continues to be a success and is enjoyed by students.
- (x) PUPIL EQUALITY FUNDING (PEF)
Further discussions on how this can be best used with good benefit.

HT explained what funds are for how evaluated and examples of what could not be included. Further discussions and consultations to follow.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING;

Tuesday 26 September 2017 @ 6pm.