

Deans Community High School Parent Council Meeting
26th September 2017
Minutes

PRESENT: Jacqueline Baird, Anne Runciman, Sandra Fallon, Angela Ritchie, Linda Irvine,
Pauline Allison (HT)

APOLOGIES: Mark Cockburn

DHT:

Newly appointed DHT & 5/6th year head, Mrs Bleach, introduced herself to parent council .

PARENT COUNCIL:

Ways in which effectiveness of PC and PC meetings can be improved were discussed. A.O.B to be e-mailed to chairperson or HT prior to meeting rather than raised on night. Where possible any information or answer to question raised prior to meeting can also be given at PC meetings -reduces length of time PC awaiting response.

MATHS:

Strategy group headed by D McMaster set up to look at Maths attainment. How can this be improved in DCHS? NAT 5 Maths results increased year 2017 but Higher Maths dipped. Being addressed and ways to improve are being considered.

NUMERACY & LITERACY WORKSHOP:

Feedback received from many parents/ carers is the feeling of unable to help/assist with homework/classwork as don't understand and methods may have changed since most attended school. Workshop of Maths & English proposed for parents are planned for this session. Students welcome to attend with parents and learn together.

MODERN STUDIES:

Higher grades/results down on previous years. The department are very pro-active in addressing this. This includes meetings and discussions on sharing best practice from other high schools in area as well as planned attendance at SQA events. Some papers are undergoing marking review to ensure graded correctly.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

An area keen to be developed and expanded is more students out into the surrounding community. Example: Knightsridge degeneration project whereby students could assist with IT help.

TARGETED AREAS OF REVIEW:

DCHS has targeted 3 areas and looking at what works in class room

- 1)Feedback - To look at how feedback is given to students and how improvements be achieved
- 2) Tapestry Programme - Learning & Teaching. Delighted that 24 staff members involved and work in partnership with each other to develop.
- 3) Review of Curriculum- Are the needs of students being met?

HEAD TEACHER REPORT; Staffing

Caroline Bleach	DHT (permanent)
Craig McLay	Chemistry (Probationer Teacher)
Lauren Evans	PE (Probationer Teacher)
Lauren Edgar	RMPS (Probationer Teacher)
Chris Rumbles	Modern Studies (Probationer Teacher)

Emma Strachan (RMPS) will be leaving to take up a post at Queen Anne High School.

SCHOOL APP:

This is now up and running.

Q) Can parent council section be added?

A) To be requested

Q) Will information appear on app that will not appear elsewhere?

A) No, all information will still be on website

SCHOOL WEBSITE:

WLC took control of all schools websites. Basic layout, navigation, overseeing etc same for all WLC schools. DCHS on phase 3 and should be live by January 18

AOB:

- Menu now up in dinner hall but no prices. Could this be made available to students. (HT to enquire)
- Parent Council Minutes - Some parents enquiring why none online for sometime. (HT to enquire)
- Mindfulness. Many parents have asked what is this and why are senior students doing a block of mindfulness. HT to request L Emmet to add section into next newsletter.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

28th November 2017