



Boclair Academy
Parent Council Meeting



Minutes Monday 24th October 2016

Chair Ivana Bhattacharyya
Vice Chair Moira Paterson
Minutes Nicola McGee

Present: Kathleen Seath, Alison MacNair, Andrew Shaw, Adrienne Shaw, William Traynor, Moira Paterson, Chris Anderson, Aileen Hamilton, Jacqui Clark, Fiona Lockhart, Ruth Candy, Fiona Williams, Emma Sheppard, David Murphy, Alan Taylor, Jacqui Taylor, Suzanne Chase, Gillian Birse, Chris Brisbane (DHT), Douglas Brown (Head Teacher), Cllr Keith Small, Yaser Razouk (Head Boy),

Apologies: Shirley Fraser, Jane Paterson, Chris Allan, Angela MacLellan, Cllr Anne McNair, Gaynor Miller, Paula Hourston

Introduction and Welcome: Ivana welcomed those in attendance and introductions were made.

Minutes of the last Meeting - Previous minutes from 24/10/16 were agreed and seconded by Gillian Birse

New PC Secretary – There were no nominations for this position and as such this will be appointed at a later date. Moira Paterson has agreed to close down PC account at Bank of Scotland and transfer funds to school safe. No objections from members re these actions.

Parent council questionnaire

David Murphy presented survey monkey results from parent questionnaire issued in May 2016- It was noted that this was the lowest response rate received from a PC survey, only 60 responses. It was agreed that the timing of the next survey needs to be considered to maximize response rate. In summary there was an equal response split between all year groups with a lot of positive comments. Priorities were as follows 1- school improvement plan, 2) Bullying 3) Supported study 4) Lateness/working with school to enforce behavior.

IB asked HT if PC can help in any way with the school improvement plan. HT replied that the PC already helps in this area eg. Homework/stretching pupils. The parent council were also acknowledged for arranging school buses for Easter school provision. HT also commented on staff being able to run clubs and supported study due to change in EIS legislation on 'work to rule'

It was also agreed for behavior/bullying policies to be placed on school website for all parents to access and to be able to work with school in applying these policies.

IB enquired if Cllr Small had the ability to complain on the PC's behalf to the Chief Executive regarding the building fabric at the school. IB asked Head Boy Yassar to speak to the pupil council and provide feedback on what areas of the school they think are sub-standard and would improve the pupil's conditions. It was agreed that although the maths block is an external building there have been significant improvements in recent years.

IB stated it is important to have specific projects in mind before applying for grants and asking the council for assistance. When ideas have been collated IB could arrange meeting with Jacqui MacDonald.

Fundraising Report- was not presented as this meeting due to absence of Gaynor Miller

Head Teacher's Report

S1 Residential

D Brown S1 pupils are currently on their annual residential trip to Lendrick Muir. Classes 1A, 1B and 1C are involved during the first half of the week and 1D, 1E and 1F the second half of the week. Up-dates will be posted on Twitter.

EDC Awards Ceremony

Boclair Academy hosted the ceremony this year on 19th September. Pupils from all over EDC received awards for contributions outwith a school setting. 20 Boclair Pupils received awards. Well done to all pupils and staff involved – particularly our Prefect Team.

Senior Awards Ceremony

This took place on Thursday 15th September. Awards are based based on SQA performance across S4, S5 and S6. The Chair of the Parent Council joined us on the platform as in previous years. Well done to all Award winners.

S4 Study Skills event

Following feedback from last year the S4 Study skills event will take place in October this session. Supported Study programme is also now published and pupils are encouraged to attend.

Staffing up-date

D Brown reported on staffing changes. Ian Millar is now on secondment with SQA. Lynsey Smith from Bearsden Academy has joined the school as acting PT Modern Studies. James McIntyre has taken up post as acting PT Computing in Bearsden Academy. Anne Souter has joined the Computing Department. Elaine Lang has joined the school office team and Sandy Lister and Kathy Graham have joined the SLA team.

Open Evening Success

The P7/S1 Open Evening took place the day before the October holiday. Over 300 visitors came along to get know the school and experience the learning environment. Feedback from the event was extremely positive.

Trips

Battlefields trip has just returned following their successful tour of Belgium and France. Pupils were excellent throughout the visit.

French exchange has also just returned and again this was an extremely successful experience for young people.

The S5 Grassic Gibbon trip takes place this month to enrich the experience of Sunset Song and the Physics Cern Trip takes place from the 18th November.

DoE

Following Mr McIntyre's promotion we are awaiting staff volunteers to take over responsibility for Duke of Edinburgh in the school.

Results

D Brown presented to the Parent Council on the attainment of the school following the SQA diet. As part of the presentation the Parent Council examined information from Scottish Government's Insight Benchmarking tool. This has been a very successful year for the school and continues a three year trend of improvement across various measures

The Parent Council and Head Teacher acknowledged the excellent work done by the prefect team.

The parent council thanked all school staff for giving up their time to run clubs and events in the evening.

AOB

IB has secured an external contact who would run the Duke of Edinburgh scheme within the school. Meeting to be arranged with HT if staff members cannot be found to run this scheme.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 28th November 2016 @ 7:15pm