

CASTLE DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL

Parent Council

AGM

7pm Thursday 13th June 2019

Chairperson Summary

Suzanne Broatch, Chair, provided a report on the work of the PC over the last year; she thanked the PC for all their work and also the hard work of the teaching staff who go above and beyond to support pupils. Creation of fund-raising team was a big success and contributed to CDHS sound system training costs. The fashion show brought the local community and local businesses together to support the school, this event also enabled pupils to become involved and demonstrate their skills and enthusiasm. The recent audit identified strengths and weaknesses but overall feeling was that pupils and staff are proud of their school, weaknesses highlighted were that interventions need to be identified sooner to enable staff to put in place more support for struggling pupils, this has been added to the school improvement plan. Suzanne acknowledged the challenges and difficulties with recent budget cuts and the importance of a strong PC to provide support to school.

Election of new PC members

Chair Suzanne Broach, proposed Suzanne Little and seconded by Lyn Smith

Vice Chair Mungo Bryson proposed by Silvana Ross and seconded by Ian Howie

Treasurer Lindsay Callender, proposed Suzanne Broach and seconded Dawn Campbell

Clerk Sarah McTurk proposed Silvana Ross, seconded Ian Marshall

Treasurers accounts

Lindsay provided accounts from last academic year total on 31/3/19 being £233.50. This was updated by Dawn Campbell with current balance being £10,488.72 to include PB funding.

CASTLE DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

7pm Thursday 13th June 2019

Present

Suzanne Broatch, Sarah McTurk, Lyn Smith, James Smith HT, Ian Marshall, Suzanne Little, Silvana Ross, Mungo Bryson, Ian Howie, Callum Luescher, Dawn Campbell, Trine Campbell, Julie Irving.

Apologies

Lindsay Callander, Janice Craig, James McTurk, Susan Hall, Gillian Davidson, Stewart Henderson, Eileen Hope,

Stepping down

Duncan Burns and Eileen Hope, Liz Budde

Previous Minutes 13/6/19

Read and approved by committee members Lyn Smith, Suzanne Broach.

Treasurers Report

As per report, balance updated £10,488.72

Headmasters Report

Mr Smith asked for any questions.

Silvana asked with the appointment of new Science Technician would Advance Higher Science now be offered. Mr Smith stated staff member currently undergoing training but that it is hoped Advance Higher Science would be offered next year with the possibility of this being shared with other Secondary Schools in the region.

Silvana stated the recent study support was very much appreciated and helpful last year.

Mr Smith stated Head boys and girls to be in place by next week.

Suzanne asked if the school improvement plan has been adopted. Mr Smith stated it was on the website and had been adopted and acted on. Short reports now available for all senior pupils.

School uniform rules clarified and Mr Smith reiterated that staff are supporting pupils to adhere to uniform.

Mungo asked about recruitment, Mr Smith stated still problems recruiting a Technical Teacher. Suzanne asked if retired teachers can return. Mr Smith stated they can come back for a certain number of days, but can be restricted by tax and pension provision. Recruitment still challenging.

General discussion around provision of Home Economics at CDHS Mungo asking for update and enquiring if PC could support. Julie Irving also asked about contributing to Home Economics Department for food. Mr Smith said they could take donations but cannot charge for lessons. PC keen to support Home Economics Department, but acknowledge that sustainability of such a strategy would be challenging.

Breakfast club

Tesco is no longer supporting the breakfast club, discussions are being entered into with the Co-op. Mr Howie has spoken to Poverty Officer within D&G Council and Co-op have been approached and have expressed an interest in supporting this important initiative. Discussions ongoing. Currently breakfast club can support 10-24 young people and Mr Smith reiterated importance of keeping this facility running within school. PC keen to support.

PB Funding

Lindsay had asked Suzanne to raise subject of £10,000 PB funding. Mr Smith stated school is actively considering all travel commitments using this funding. Suzanne reminded committee that this money needs to be used by June 2020. Mungo asked about following years and wondered if any of the fund could be used moving forward. Dawn said the way the fund works is to apply every year and it was not possible to use this year's money next year and so on she reminded PC that money must be for transport and must be free for all.

Julie Irving asked if new parents could be informed about this transport fund. Mr Smith stated it would be put into next newsletter.

Fundraising (general)

Suzanne and Mungo asked for any ideas for future fund raising. Fashion show was very successful but lots of work for people involved. Dawn felt it was so positive for the school to engage with the wider community. Suzanne asked if next school production could be in school rather than theatre Mr Smith stated with without lighting it would be challenging. Trine mentioned possibility lighting could be lent for free from Paul Chisholm. Mr Smith stated pupils would be happy to have production in school if it was possible. Dawn received email quote for lighting which is approx. £5000.00 this quote could go to Hollywood Trust but Dawn requested support to fill in the application form.

Mr Smith said there is work going to happen at some point in the future within the school some of this is structural and will require planning, unfortunately no dates available at present.

Last session Lindsay discussed possibility of renting Birchvale Theatre in Dalbeattie and selling tickets for a film night/ladies night. Movie night also discussed within school.

Christmas Fayre - Learning Support Department have requested support, PC could have a table at this event.

Mungo suggested large fund raising night such as charity auction or a race night, perhaps to be held in February/March 2020. Mungo to approach Michelle Robertson about using Threave as a possible venue.

Following fund raising discussions it was agreed:-

This term Movie night and Christmas fayre

Next term Charity auction and race night

Lyn asked about charity walk which was discussed last term Mr Smith stated this event did not go ahead due to poor state of paths.

Suzanne asked about update for Learning Support Department and obtaining funding for laptops via the Winnifred Kennedy Trust, Mr Smith to speak to Miss Sellers regarding this. Dawn asked about software licences Mr Smith said this would come with appliance.

AOCB

Andy McNay requested support to purchase basketball strips which he currently has match funding for and now requires £150.00 show of hands from committee members happy to support this.

Date of next Meeting

Next Meeting Thursday 7th November 2019 at 7pm.