

Parent Council Meeting – Thursday 16th January 2020

MINUTES

Attendance:

Suzanne Broatch, Sarah McTurk, Silvana Ross, Iain Marshall, Mr Smith, Mr Cathro, Dawn Campbell.

Apologies:

Lynn Smith, James McTurk, Suzanne Little, Mungo Bryson, Lindsay Callander, Susan Hall, Janice Craig, Ian Howie, Trine Campbell

Minutes from meeting 7th November 2019

No matters arising: proposed by Iain and seconded by Suzanne.

Treasurer's Report

£533.32 in Parent Council Fund

£7639.50 Transport fund.

Mr Smith has items to come off transport fund which he has forwarded to Dawn

Headmasters Report

Mr Smith explained items from his report including clarification of show dates for Aladdin. Mr Smith stated these were only dates that are available at Fullerton but importantly these dates do not clash with exams.

Improvement work

Mr Smith highlighted challenges of work currently being undertaken within CDHS particularly the disruption to students caused by the substantial refurbishment works.

Concerns were also expressed regarding contamination risks that could arise due to the asbestos being removed whilst the children are in the same building.

Suzanne asked about the plan to block off of the escape stair and wanted to know what measures were in place to compensate as this plan would potentially put students and staff at risk

Suzanne also asked why school was not using Portakabins to alleviate some of these issues similar to the arrangement at St Joseph's School in Dumfries during their recent refurbishment work.

Suzanne offered to contact property services to find out what safety plans were in place.

School Improvement plan

Mr Smith stated all measures should be completed by the summer.

Suzanne fed back she found the monitoring and tracking process helpful providing up to date feedback. Suzanne asked about any vocational apprenticeships. Mr Cathro said there was 8 Foundation Apprentices available and further information on the college websites, moving forward these courses will work in with school timetable across whole region, wide range of courses available both at D&G College and The Bridge. Mr Cathro stated S4 parents evening will provide further information. Transport is available to support foundation apprentices which are equivalent to almost 2 highs.

Mr Smith discussed working partnership with local company Natural Power this is a work in progress but has positive possibilities for the future.

Silvana asked when S2 parents evening was – 29th April 2020.

Tackling Poverty Funding

Mr Smith pleased to be able to confirm purchase of mini bus for CDHS. Suzanne suggested we apply to Poverty Fund for running costs and sustaining the minibus, Mr Smith confirmed he has funding for running costs for first year meantime.

- Actions**
- Suzanne has completed Breakfast Club funding form and just requires some further costings from Mr Smith.
 - Suzanne will also look at funding application for uniform bank including PE kit and trainers which staff felt would be really useful and would aid inclusion and participation.
 - Dawn will look at application form for Transport Fund – Mr Smith will provide costings for running the minibus.

Dawn mentioned “Food for thought” funding from Education Scotland possibility that school could apply for this – Mr Smith to look into.

General Fundraising update

Mr Cathro discussed starting School of Golf which would be in partnership with Castle Douglas Golf Club this is an initiative that Mr Cathro and Mr McNay have been looking into. The costings would be in the region of £4000 including all necessary kit/clubs etc. This initiative would initially embed into S1 and S2. General feeling from PC was very positive and they would be keen to support this. Mr Cathro informed meeting he had already had funding pledges totalling £2000 and hoped the Holywood Trust will also support this. CDHS could raise further funds by running Race Night on 28th February 2020. Suggestion of entrance of £5 per person. The PC felt this was a good fund raising idea.

- Actions**
- Silvana will email Mungo regarding possibility of using raffle prizes he has already obtained on race night.
 - Suzanne will apply for licence for race night.
 - Mr Cathro will be responsible for advertising the Race Night this using Email, Facebook and Expressions.

Silvana updated meeting regarding the Birchdale Theatre fundraising option however this will be put on hold meantime as race night will go ahead in February and will look at again later in the year

Learning Support Winnifred Kennedy Trust - Mr Smith has no costings meantime but there is a possibility of a *Literacy Programme* which is currently being investigated.

Lighting system - Dawn has discussed with staff at Derek Mitchel and confirmed that project needs to be put this through Clerk of Works. Currently no further work can go ahead until school improvement work has finished including removal of asbestos. Electrician also clarified that initial quote only included materials and not fitting and installation so likely to be more around the £10k mark.

AOCB

Silvana has been approached by two sets of parents who were disappointed with the P7/S1 information evening and the negative feeling that was given during the walk around the school. Mr Smith is aware of this.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 25th February 2020 @ 7pm

To support the organising of the Race Night helpers encouraged to attend this short meeting.

Next Parent Council meeting

Thursday May 14th 2020 @ 7pm