

Dalziel High School Parent Teachers' Association

Minutes of Meeting at Dalziel High School

Monday 14th May 2012 at 7:30pm

Present – Vivien Townsley, Wendy Hall, Diane McLaughlan, Cheryl Percy, Caroline Wilson, Elaine Hamilton, Irene McKenna, Janette Watson, Margaret Pollock, Robert Birch, John Hinton, Liz Cunningham, Jacqui Agnew, Jaclyn Lennon, Patti Owens, Evelyn Dickson

Apologies – Jim Wales, Elaine Gregor, Lesley Hamilton, Fiona Hannah

Chairman's Remarks – Margaret opened the meeting at 7.30 pm by welcoming everyone present and introduced Paul Rogan from Community Alternatives.

Community Alternatives – Paul Rogan is undertaking a PhD at Glasgow University investigating young people's problematic substance misuse. Part of his studies includes a survey of S4-6 pupils which has been approved by the Ethics Committee at Glasgow University. Paul has also been given permission by NLC to speak to all NLC high schools. The survey will be a series of multiple choice questions and will be completed during school hours. Depending on answers given to the questions, sections of the survey may not be relevant to the young person therefore, to avoid some pupils finishing earlier than others, a series of games has been introduced for the end of the survey. There will be nothing in the survey to identify either school or individual. Paul had met with Robert Birch to discuss the survey and had agreed that parental consent must be obtained prior to completing the survey and it must be an opt-in survey. It is likely that the survey will take place after the summer holidays and information will be issued to S4-6 parents at the appropriate time.

Minutes of meeting on 20 February 2012 – these were approved and seconded by Liz Cunningham and Caroline Wilson.

Matters arising from meeting on 20 February 2012:

- Fundraising at Spring Concert – teas and coffees were offered at the interval of the Spring Concert and were well received. A profit was made – the exact amount will be confirmed at the next meeting.
- Choral Shield – at the AGM in March 2012, it had been agreed to donate £150 to each house towards the costs of the Choral Shield.

Correspondence – No new correspondence

Treasurer's Report – Fiona had submitted her apologies – a report will be given at the next meeting

Parent Conference - Margaret, Liz and John attended NLC's Parent Conference in March – Wendy also attended for Knowetop. This year's conference explained Curriculum for Excellence in detail and was generally found to be an informative and enjoyable event. This is the first year that representatives from Dalziel have attended. The PTA Committee will highlight the date of future conferences in good time – the conference is open to all parents throughout North Lanarkshire.

School Matters – Robert advised the following:

- Staff
 - Jacqui Agnew has been appointed as new DHT
 - David Masters is Acting PT of Pupil Support for Greig House – covering maternity leave
 - Lorna Dyett is retiring
 - There have been numerous staffing changes recently with 7 members of staff on maternity leave, 3 promotions and 2 retirements.
 - Posts being (or to be advertised):
 - Teacher of PE
 - Teacher of English
 - Teacher of HID
 - Teacher of Spanish and French
 - PT of Work Experience and Vocational Education
- ICT – SEEMIS – technology being implemented in a number of ways:
 - Electronic system for period by period registration now being used with S2 and will be used for all years in August
 - Monitoring and tracking being tested with S4 interim reports in June
- Curriculum for Excellence
 - CFE Steering Group established to produce a series of Position Papers on CFE issues and report to staff and parents – would provide information to PTA if requested
 - Individual departments moving ahead with re-design of courses
 - Current curriculum structure to be reviewed across the school
- SQA examinations
 - E Kelly now Chief Invigilator
 - Examinations going well
- The Dalzielian
 - On sale in June 2012
 - Price increased to £12 which is subsidised by the school and advertisers as each book costs approx. £19 to produce
- Science Fayre
 - To be held on 14 and 15 June 2012
 - Three astronauts invited to “launch” Science Fayre
 - Opening evening for parents – date TBC
- Sports Day
 - Date changed to avoid clashes with other events and difficulties in getting buses
 - New date now Monday 11 June 2012
- School Improvement Plan and School Improvement Report
 - Will be available later this month
 - Will be uploaded onto school website
- Sponsored Walk
 - Sponsored walk is fundraising event for War Memorial Trust for maintenance of sports facilities at Dalziel Park
 - S1-S4 to take part this year, walking from school, around Strathclyde Park and returning to school
 - To be held on Friday 8 June 2012 from 1-3pm
 - Parent volunteers required to hand out water and be positioned at various locations around park
- S1 intake evening
 - Thursday 7 June 2012 for parents’ visit for new S1 intake

Pupil Support – Margaret introduced Patti Owens who spoke about the role of Pupil Support in the school. In an informative presentation, Patti explained the various ways in which Pupil Support staff could assist, the different agencies who could be contacted for additional support and the strategies which were employed. Margaret thanked Patti for her presentation and the explanation of the valuable service offered by the Pupil Support staff.

PTA Quiz – the annual PTA quiz will be held on Monday 11 June. This is a good, informal event – tickets are priced £5 each, which includes your first drink, and are available at the door on the night.

Next Meeting - The next meeting will be the quiz night – the next formal meeting will be in September 2012 – date to be advised.

Margaret thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Post meeting: Robert met with parents to discuss CFE issues, primarily with focus on S1.