



## DALZIEL HIGH SCHOOL

### PARENT COUNCIL

**Minutes of meeting held at 7.00 pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

**in the School Conference Room**

Present:	Mr Robert Birch	Head Teacher
	Mrs Irene McKenna	Chairperson
	Mrs Sadia Ahmed	Parent member
	Mrs Deborah King	Parent member
	Mrs Irene McAlpine	Parent member
	Mrs Jennifer Di Mambro	Staff member
	Mr Dominic Farr	Staff member

1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Margaret Craw and Simon Jessney.

2 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of events.

3 **BUSINESS ARISING**

i) The Head Teacher thanked Jim Allan who spoke so eloquently at the Remembrance Service, resulting in a really poignant event this year. It was mentioned that the TV footage of Jim planting his memorial cross in the gardens in Edinburgh might be used as part of next year's revamped Social Subjects presentations.

ii) The Head Teacher mentioned that the Self Support Study groups were well established from Monday through to Thursday with numbers generally very good but obviously sometimes affected by after school trips etc.

iii) Concerning the Public Speaking event, the Head Teacher commented on the high standard of the majority of the speakers and thanked all of those involved in the preparations this year.

#### 4 **RECTOR'S REPORT**

i) The Head Teacher reported on a variety of upcoming events taking place in the lead up to Christmas:

The school choirs had performed very well in Princess Square on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

The Christmas dances are going ahead as planned.

The Christmas Service is set for 11am on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

The Music department are planning a short Christmas performance one lunchtime in the last week of term.

ii) The Customer Service Excellence inspection is scheduled for Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Jennifer Di Mambro explained the process of the interview and preparation of materials in much greater detail.

iii) AMEC directors are visiting the school on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December to build a partnership with the school. R Birch explained how the company are looking to expand from the east to the west coast of Scotland. AMEC will offer their staff for training opportunities and are keen to get involved in school events. R Birch thanked M Crow and G McCallum for their preparation of a "wish list" that will be discussed as a starting point for their partnership building on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

v) R Birch explained the thinking behind the move by NLC to a 33 period week and the resulting FTE Teacher Savings. R Birch explained that the 33 period week will result in savings with a reduction in the number of teachers across NLC. He went on to explain that the savings aspect has now been suspended for one year and will not affect next session.

vi) R Birch went on to further explain the impact of the Savings Package agreed with NLC and the way in which it will result in the need to operate with a reduced management structure. He told of the fact the school was still awaiting the information needed to plan the new structure which has to be fully implemented over the next three years. He explained the points allowance per teacher and gave examples of how the restructuring might work. The final plan has to be in place for January. It was decided that any information would be passed on to the Parent Council via email as soon as it is made available.

vii) R Birch put to rest media hype about some schools potentially delaying the switch to new Highers in some subject. He simply stated that the school will be retaining the current Highers while they are offered.

viii) R Birch advised that the place that was available in S1 has now been filled.

#### 5 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

There was no change to report

#### 6 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to support

**7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

i) A letter had been sent from the NHS regarding a recent outbreak of STDs in NL. Guidance staff have attended a meeting and will deal with disseminating the information as part of the Sexual Health Issues topic in PSE.

ii) The Head Teacher told of a partnership with a Russian and an American school which involves launching a balloon into inner space. Margaret Crow to expand this at the next meeting.

iii) An enquiry was made as to why the school did not partake in a two minute silence on 11<sup>th</sup> November. As an important part of the school's Remembrance Service this was deemed unnecessary.

**8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting will be Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014.