

DALZIEL HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at 7.00 pm on Thursday 9th January 2014

in the School Conference Room

Present:	Mr Robert Birch	-	Head Teacher
	Mrs Irene McKenna	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Deborah King	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Irene McAlpine	-	Parent Member
	Mr Simon Jessney	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Jennifer DiMambro	-	Staff Member
	Mr Dominic Farr	-	Staff Member
	Mrs Rona Whittaker	-	Clerk

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Margaret Craw and Sadia Ahmed.

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

R Birch referred to 7(i) and advised that it was hoped Alex Samond would attend the balloon launch and we are now awaiting confirmation of the date of the launch.

4 RECTOR'S REPORT

4.1 Customer Service Excellence Inspection

The inspection was held on Monday 16th December and went very well. Robert Sullivan met with SMT, pupils and had a tour of the school. He was very positive about the learning groups and pupil opinions being heard. There are learning groups for S1/2, S3/4 and S5/6 and are separate from pupil council and are focussed on learning and what happens in classes.

4.2 AMEC

We met with Directors from AMEC on Wednesday 11th December to build a partnership with the school. They spent the day in the school and are very keen to build links with

Dalziel High School. This would include coming to events, advertising apprenticeships and possibly funding days at Motherwell College. They have taken our proposed action plan and we are awaiting the final agreement.

4.3 33 period week

The move to a 33 period week is going ahead in all North Lanarkshire Council High Schools from August 2014. Our proposed new model has been on our website for approximately 1 month and R Birch will now write to all parents as part of the consultation. It is hoped the consultation will be concluded in January.

A letter will be issued to all parents on 10/1/14 and Braidhurst, Brannock and Coltness will all propose the same timetable.

It will mean senior pupils will have 6 periods in every subject if they are doing 5 highers and will see the afternoon interval removed.

Parent's main concern will probably be childcare but for our new first year pupils they will have been finishing school at 3pm so it is hoped it won't cause too many problems.

4.4 Re-structuring

As part of the Savings package we will be required to operate a reduced management structure.

The head teacher is now proposing the following changes:

1. Create one principal teacher post for the Humanities (Geography, History, Modern Studies and RME)
2. Create one principal teacher post for Science
3. Create one principal teacher post for Business Studies and ICT

4.5 Dalziel Park

Dalziel High School War Memorial trust has been granted £250,000 from Sports Scotland for the redevelopment of 3G pitches at Dalziel Park. This will allow 2 full size 3G rugby pitches with full size football pitches inside them. This is part of a wider funding package involving DHS, NLC, War Memorial Trust, Sports Scotland and the Football partnership. As NLC have to provide outdoor sports facilities for the school they are paying 5 or 6 years in advance towards the redevelopment. The football partnership meets on 29/1/14 so no work will take place until then.

Huge thanks go to Ian Watson for his hard work in raising this funding.

4.6 School Trips

From January to SQA exams we try to minimise trips and events that would take pupils/staff from the classroom.

4.7 School Policies

Jacqui Agnew, Learning Support DHT, is leading a group to review school policies and will attend the next Parent Council meeting to discuss the updates.

Tracking and monitoring pupil progress using SEEMIS is now being undertaken for S4, 5 and 6. Teachers can use SEEMIS to show current grades, effort etc and then the SMT can use this information when they are interviewing pupils.

5 TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no change to report.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

R Birch announced that Margaret Craw is standing down from the Parent Council and advised that Fiona Conoboy, PT Maths, would be joining as a new staff member.

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 6th February 2014.