

DALZIEL HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL AGM

Minutes of meeting held at 7.00 pm on Thursday 4th December 2014

in the School Conference Room

Present:	Mr Robert Birch	-	Head Teacher
	Mrs Deborah King	-	Chairperson
	Mrs Irene McKenna	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Irene McAlpine	-	Parent Member
	Mr Simon Jessney	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Margery Lilly	-	Parent Member
	Mr David Forson	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Fiona Conboy	-	Staff Member
	Mrs Jennifer DiMambro	-	Staff Member
	Sarah Clelland	-	House Captain
	Eimear King	-	House Captain
	Mrs Rona Whittaker	-	Clerk

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Dominic Farr, Jennifer DiMambro and Jennifer Winter.

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

The request for any items of school uniform was in the newsletter.

Public Speaking - Well done to all pupils who took part and congratulations to Barclay.

4 RECTOR'S REPORT

4.1 Staffing

We have now been told that the cut to our staffing for August 15 will be 3.19 FTE. R Birch is meeting with personnel later this month to discuss our staffing requirements. We hope to still offer as wide a range of courses to our pupils as always but this is a significant cut in staffing. It might be difficult to run advance higher courses.

Mr Chris Bensalem takes up post as Principal Teacher of Music on January 5th.

Interviews will take place on Wednesday 10th December for Teacher of Business Studies.

4.2 Learning Morning.

We recently involved all S2 pupils in a very successful Learning Morning. This was to show pupils there are different styles and ways of learning and to give pupils confidence in themselves.

4.3 Christmas Dances

The dates for Christmas Dances are

S1 Monday 8th December

S2 Tuesday 9th

S3 Wednesday 10th

S4 Monday 15th

S5/6 Tuesday 16th.

4.4 Directorate Visit

We were visited by Lizanne McMurrach, Robert Dalzell and Kathleen Sinclair on Tuesday 25th November to review the performance of the school over the last year. They were very positive in their comments.

4.5 Education Scotland Visit

We were visited by three staff from Education Scotland who are interested in showcasing the work being done on our partnership with AMEC(FW)

4.6 GB Transplant Games

The school captain and vice-captain were involved in the bid to bring the GB Transplant Games to North Lanarkshire. We have now been told that the games will be coming to North Lanarkshire.

4.7 Customer Service Excellence Award

The recent inspection has gone very well and we await the written report and recommendations.

4.8 First Aid Award

On Friday 28th November we were awarded the First Class award at the St Andrews First Aid Awards in Glasgow. This is in recognition of the work that goes on at our Health Fayre and the involvement of our pupils in First Aid.

4.9 Dalziel Park – Opening Ceremony

We are planning an opening ceremony on the evening of Friday 16th January. This will involve two short matches and a ceremony in the clubhouse.

4.10 School Trips

A School trip is being planned for S1 to London this year instead of York.

A trip to France for S3/4 is being organised for June 2015. This was oversubscribed and names were drawn from a hat at the recent S3 Assembly.

4.11 S4 Prelims

The prelims are ending now. While the prelim papers are no longer used for appeals they are still a good way of letting pupils/parents/teachers know how pupils are performing and they give pupils some experience of an exam diet before the final exams. Departments may use this information to suggest a change of level for a small number of pupils. Any change of presentation level should be discussed with parents/guardians.

4.12 Sunday Times – Top 50 Schools in Scotland

The Sunday Times recently published its Parent's Guide to the Top 50 Schools in Scotland (this is based upon academic achievement in the SQA examinations). Dalziel High School has moved up from number 39 to number 33. This is another measure of the success achieved by our pupils.

4.13 Option Choices

We have started to plan our school curriculum for next year. 'Dummy runs' of the option forms will be discussed with pupils to try to establish demand for different subjects.

4.14 St Andrew's Hospice

We have signed our partnership agreement with St Andrew's Hospice. The three house captains are now St Andrew's Hospice ambassadors. They have been given tasks that they have to do but some of them are things that the school are already involved in. They are going to try to arrange a visit to the hospice and maybe involve the choir/music dept.

4.15 Contact

The Parent Council are interest in using text messaging more as a way to contact parents. A letter has to be issued to parents/guardians to see if they would be happy to receive texts.

There was no change to report.

6 **CORRESPONDENCE**

D King has received a letter from EIS asking for Parents support re the impact of Budget Savings. Parent Council members to consider sending a letter to NLC asking them to rethink the budget cuts to teaching and learning.

D King will forward a copy of a questionnaire she has received to the other parent members.

7 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

R Birch and D King had discussed Mrs Muir's concerns about HE rooms. D King has sent a letter to Stephen Moore about this advising that the Parent Council would be supporting any case for renewing HE rooms.

The Constitution will be discussed at the next meeting.

8 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 8th January 2015.