

Tynecastle Parent Council Meeting

Date: 2nd September 2014

Attendance:
Tom Rae-Head Teacher, Sue McKendrick-Chair, Angela Bell-Deputy Head, Ros Marshall, Morag Thomas, Gail Fairgrieve, Caroline Astor, Anne Ambler, Beatrice Bryant, Jane-Anne Dodds, Ali Grieve, Nicky Hall, Charlotte Willson, Helen Chan, Kevin Greenan
1. Apologies:
Jackie Reid, Emma McFadden & Alison McDonald

Item	Discussion key points	Action Points
2. Approval of minutes	<p>Minutes approved</p> <p>Briefly discussed the short Parent Council meeting held on the 25th August after S1 Parent's Evening: approximately 10 parents attended. Sue summarised the role of the Parent Council; help with recruitment, HMIE Inspection, consultation, communication and fundraising. Also mentioned highlights from last year: Burns supper, Summer Fair, Tynie FM, Student enterprise. Briefly discussed fundraising ideas, communication from Parent Council and new school website. Parents mentioned more Social opportunities for parents to meet other parents.</p>	
3. Treasurer's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Balance of accounts at End of Year 2013/14: £4659.33 - Profits from the Summer Fair amounted to £1079.21 <p>Caroline confirmed that Jim Young was interested in receiving feedback on the joint collaboration between Tynecastle High School and the Gorgie Dalry Gala Day</p>	Caroline to liaise with Jim
4. Headteacher's Report	Please see foot of these minutes for full Head Teacher's Report	
5. Plans/Ideas for Open Day	<p>Tynecastle High School Open Evening is scheduled for 25th September from 6.00 to 8.00 pm. Suggestions for making the evening interesting and accessible to new and prospective parents included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Showing a student film on 'positive journeys' -Tours of the different Departments/classes with demonstrations -A Teacher representative/display of student's work, from each department, in the foyer, for busy parents. - Parent Council representation with photos of the summer fair -Posters, Parentmail and letters to cluster Primary Schools and text messages being sent week beginning 8th September 	<p>Nicky to provide photos of school Fair</p> <p>Sue to send round Doodle poll to collate availability to help man stall. Available PC members to complete Doodle poll.</p>
6. PC objectives & Priorities for	<p>Objectives include</p> <p>(1) Effective Communication</p>	

<p>2014/15</p>	<p>(2) Fundraising, (3) Consulting, Engaging and involvement</p> <p>There was some overlap with ideas including engaging with parents through children's activities, Event Posters in local Community Centres, Supermarket Notice Boards, Canalside magazine, New school website available mid-September; suggested putting videos onto website and having an 'information for potential parents page'. Pantomime review in newspaper to help promote the school. Working with the community through Gorgie/Dalry fair, churches, and Tynecastle nursery. Communications with parents at parents evenings, texts, twitter, facebook, pupil post, parentmail</p>	
<p>7. Fundraising</p>	<p>Last year Parent Council Fundraising helped to finance and support initiatives and activities in different departments throughout the school e.g. Referee fees, World Book Day: Author Visit and purchase of books, Basketball strips, headphones, climbing club, annual music license.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Caroline suggested Capital Ice Hockey tickets as a fundraising opportunity. A block of tickets can be sold to students at a discounted rate and 50% of ticket sales are given to School/PC -Caroline suggested having an annual School Raffle License and has a contact at CEC licensing department -Ali suggested looking into Grants available for specific initiatives within the school -Tribute band to play. -Themed fundraising (e.g. football event to raise funds for new strips). 	<p>Tom to liaise with Scott</p> <p>Caroline to contact</p> <p>Tom to follow up</p>
<p>8. Allocating Funds</p>	<p>Request Forms for funds to be circulated to all departments and clubs for next meeting</p>	<p>Angela</p>
<p>9. AOB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parent Council 'Thursday Social Night' 7pm at Caley Sample Rooms on 2nd October - all welcome. This is a follow up of requests from new S1 parents for more opportunities for parents to meet. Other ideas, to be organised, include American Style Buffet Evening, in school, where everyone brings a dish. - Angela shared details of WW1 Tower of London Centenary Memorial Ceramic Poppies for sale at the price of £25 each. Parent Council agreed to buy some for the WW1 memorial in school. Suggested one per person on Plaque 	<p>Angela, Caroline</p>

Next Meeting: 7th October 7 - 8.30 pm Focus on Internal/External Communications and Funding Requests

Future Meetings: 11th November, 13th January, 3rd March, 28th April, 2nd June(AGM)

Other Key Dates (Taken from Calendar on Website):

Thurs 25th Sep: Open Day 6.30 - 8.30 pm

Mon 29th Sep: S3 iPad Parent and Student Meeting

Thurs 30th Oct: S1 parent consultation evening

Tues 18th Nov: S4-6 Parent's consultation

1st-5th Dec: S3 exams

16th/17th Dec: School Pantomime

Fri 19th Dec: Break for Christmas holiday

Tues 6th Jan: Resume

Wed 14th Jan: Dance Quest Showcase Evening

26th+ 29th Jan: S2 Consultation and Information evenings

Fri 30th Jan: **Burns Supper** with meal, entertainment and ceilidh

Head Teacher's Report

2nd September 2014

Staffing update

- R Rahimian appointed as new Pupil Support Leader (Dunvegan House).
- Modern Studies post now advertised.
- New Science Teacher will be joining us soon. Full time supply staff covering until then.
- Actively taking on classroom volunteers if they have appropriate skills and attitudes
- P Sharp, DHT, secondment extended.
- Mr Brown has replaced Mrs Campbell in CDT (maternity Leave).

Attainment

- Summary of SQA exam performance.
- SQA post results service Remark requests submitted.

Learning & Teaching

- iPad roll-out: S6 on 3rd September; S3 on 29th September.
- Featured recently on Reporting Scotland on piece about Innovation in schools.
- Learning Carousel.

Curriculum

- S1 JASS will repeat successful Adventure Day cycles - by class
- John Muir being developed for all in S3 as part of a Social Subjects initiative
- Senior Phase School Improvement Group established. Planning wider achievement and inter-disciplinary learning. Led by Angela Bell
- Mandarin and Gaelic has started in S1-3 Broad General Education phase

Management issues

- Piper and drum teacher identified and taster sessions being set up. Cluster primaries linked.
- All eligible students have experienced a Referendum Awareness workshop, and been supported through voter registration process
- Jenni Robertson to attend meeting on 7th October. New website will go live in next two weeks.

School Life Developments

- S5 students on Career Academy programme completed successful summer internships
- World Challenge Bolivia Trip very successful. 2016 Trip will be to Tanzania
- Wednesday Clubs off to a good start. Angela Bell will seek funding requests in time for next meeting. Lunchtime concert last week from La Fontaines, a well-known band.
- Wilfred Owen Memorial Historic Scotland Plaque installed last week. Press coverage wide. Iona Hyslop, Culture and Communities Minister attended.
- Battlefields trip in September (10th-15th)
- Tynecastle has three nominations for Edinburgh Achievement Awards on 11th September: Wilfred Owen Project, Working Together and Meaningful May Programme
- P5-7 Open Evening – 25th September
- Plans for joint working with Theatre Group on WW1 centenary drama project and performance (Jan' 2015)