

## Tynecastle Parent Council Meeting

Date: 29-4-13

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| <b>Attendance:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| Mary Brownlee-Chair, Angela Bell, Ros Marshall, Morag Thomas, Sue Stevenson, Gail Fairgrieve, Caroline Astor, Sue Mckendrick, Anne Cunningham, Miss Moyes, 3 members of student council and Patryk Zak |  |
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| <b>1. Apologies:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| Tom Rae, Claudia Esslinger, Heather Osborne, Beatrice Bryant                                                                                                                                           |  |
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| Item                                | Discussion key points                                                                                                                                                         | Action Points |
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| <b>2. Approval of minutes</b>       | -Minutes approved, although the cost of £64 was for pizzas <u>and</u> complimentary meals at The Burns Supper.<br>We welcomed members of the student council and Miss Moyes   |               |
| <b>3. Enterprise update- Patryk</b> | Patryk has paid off his enterprise loan of £65-he now makes £10 a week, with all profits kindly going to The World Challenge Fund. This week he is selling ice cream as well. |               |

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| <p><b>4. Summer Fair</b></p>           | <p>Mary gave a quick outline of progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sumo Suits booked-charge will be £1 a go</li> <li>• Advertising banner now being made for free</li> <li>• Multi-cultural food stall-Miss Moyes will ask students about providing food for this</li> <li>• Global Challenge students to staff Hot Dog Stall</li> <li>• Bunting will be made for the fair and can then be used for further fairs. We may also borrow bunting if needed</li> <li>• SRU inflatable assault course is available</li> <li>• The art club will be asked to make posters to advertise the fair within the school</li> <li>• Advertising beyond the school will start 3 weeks before the event-last week of May</li> <li>• CDT will make stocks for the 'throw the sponge' stall</li> <li>• Eco-group will run a plant stall</li> <li>• Busking stall to be run by Connor Gartland who will act as MC</li> <li>• Entrance charge £1 for adults, children free</li> <li>• Home baking to be bagged up, and sold alongside beverages</li> <li>• MITIE have provided maps so areas of the school being used for the fair can be marked on</li> <li>• There was discussion about how the profits of the fair be allocated. It was decided that all profits would come to the parent council. Then departments and clubs can apply for funding for specific projects</li> </ul> | <p>E-mail Mary for details re. bunting if you would like to help</p> <p>Summer Fair to be spoken about at tutor time and when students come back from exam leave-so everyone is aware of opportunities to participate in this event</p> <p>Letter to be written by parent council explaining how the fair will work, asking for student and departmental help. Also explaining that funding can be applied for. A separate Summer Fair meeting is planned- Mary has suggested Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Thursday 16 at the school-6.30pm For further Fair updates please see e-mails from Mary</p> |
| <p><b>5. Feedback on Reporting</b></p> | <p>Parents reported back that the reports were clear, and information was available if you needed to refer back</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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| <b>6. Draft Parental engagement Strategy</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mary said that lots of parents are involved and that Tynecastle parents don't necessarily need to make a contribution. The document contains a lot of information that is quite unwieldy for parent councils                                                                                                              |  |
| <b>7. Head Teacher's Report</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | This was given by Angela as Tom was on a training course.<br>Please scroll down to the foot of the minutes for the full report.                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
| <b>8. Treasurer's update</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Heather was unable to attend the meeting tonight.<br>Profit from Burns Supper £185<br>£5238.26 in the bank, although catering invoice for Burns Supper not yet received (approx. £850)                                                                                                                                    |  |
| <b>9 CCwP update</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | There is a new Parent Council Resource Manual - available online at <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk">www.scotland.gov.uk</a><br>Also "Nationals in a Nutshell" produced by the National Parent Forum of Scotland are available online at <a href="http://www.parentforumscotland.org">www.parentforumscotland.org</a> |  |
| <p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p><b>Letter to distillery</b>-We have been very kindly given a cheque by North British Distillery for a sum of £1250 to pay for homework diaries-this donation will be given on an annual basis. Ros has written to thank them.</p> <p><b>Display Boards</b>-These will be too expensive for the CDT department to make. Gail has looked at some websites and knows what is available to buy-she is waiting to hear from Jacquie Ramsay about exact requirements</p> <p><b>Litter Less Lunchtime Campaign competition.</b> Mary received a letter from S1 about this project. They are keen to get their message across to the wider community and have asked the parent council for their support in their campaign by recycling as much as possible and binning any non-recyclable waste.</p> <p><b>EAL Meeting at Tynecastle</b>-Thanks was given to Mary for helping at this meeting last week.</p> <p><b>Next meeting Monday 3</b><br/>Hope this meeting will be on the roof garden with refreshments.<br/>The minutes secretary is stepping down-Morag has very kindly offered to take on this role-many thanks to Morag.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
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- Stable. No changes since last report. Fortunately few changes planned for after summer. Will update at next meeting once details clearer e.g. retirements. Once again, no staff made surplus to requirement.

#### **Attainment**

- A number of faculties have organised second prelims in last few weeks and these have gone well.
- Thanks to E Cochrane, BM, as SQA preparations for exams have gone smoothly. S4 leave has started with assembly held last week to issue final advice.

#### **Learning & Teaching**

- We have received some support from CEC to run two pilots for iPads with students. These will start early next session with planning well under way. All students in these year groups will be issued with iPad 2s. This is a major development on top of the refresh planned for July. ICT estate in school will be greatly enhanced and all will benefit. It will greatly support innovation in Learning.

#### **Curriculum (including CfE update)**

- Timetable is nearing completion under leadership of A Bell. Coursing at all levels, especially the first year of CfE for S4. High levels of first choices. A number of exciting new courses introduced successfully to meet student needs e.g. Health Academy, mechanics, and laboratory science. Full range of academic courses also on offer. Courses will run if sufficient level of student interest.

#### **Management issues**

- Bids from departments for new equipment, or repairs to equipment met fully. Substantial investment in English reading support materials, PE and Music in particular.
- Excellent feedback from student and parent surveys completed throughout the year. This will now be used to plan for improvements next year.
- Vision for schools feedback from staff, parents and students sent in. This is now being used to plan next steps in process.

#### **School Life Developments**

- Performance event was very successful. Spring Fling cancelled as not enough tickets sold.
- Netherlands exchange went well. However, Mr Simpson to meet with Mr Rae this term to evaluate the exchange being targeted at S3 as requested by partner school.
- Easter school was well attended.
- H Sword in S5 has won Scotland section of outstanding student in Careers Academy and now in UK final. A trip to New York and funding of University fees available to the UK winner.
- Maks in S5 came runner up in the Paolozzi Art Award for students who overcome barriers and do well with their learning in Art.
- S1 working on litter less lunch project and have been commended by Director for work done so far.
- S3 John Muir group working on building wicker house structure and developing school garden. They will also take part in a special camp later this term.
- Engineering project students in S5-6 did well in recent Strathclyde University project but did not win. They benefited greatly though from working with experts and under-graduates in trying to design a special laboratory sensor.
- Two Duke of Edinburgh trips went well this month.
- Health and Wellbeing days planned for May. Planning going well.