

Tynecastle Parent Council Meeting

Date: 4-3-13

Attendance:	
Tom Rae- Head Teacher, Mary Brownlee-Chair, , Ros Marshall, Beatrice Bryant, Morag Thomas, Sue Stevenson, Gail Fairgrieve, Caroline Astor	
1. Apologies:	
Claudia Esslinger, Sue and Iain McKendrick, Angela Bell, Ann Cunningham, Heather Osborne	

Item	Discussion key points	Action Points
2. Approval of minutes 3. CEC Vision for Schools Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Minutes approved -A note was made re Council budget setting. There will be no additional cuts to the education budget next session. -Tom handed out documentation related to this. -Mary had already sent out this consultation document by e-mail -There is a 4 part structured form for feedback to be given -A quite lengthy discussion followed, linked particularly to the movement of HT's every 5-7 years. Also the number of deputy heads allocated to High Schools, which is dependent on many factors -The consultation finishes 22 will collate views and feedback. 	<p>Mary to e-mail parents not at the meeting tonight, to ask for their views. Please e-mail Mary with any other comments</p>
4. CfE Parental Consultation	The HT report will cover this	

<p>5. Head Teacher's report</p>	<p>The full report can be read at the foot of the minutes. It is written under the following headings-Staffing update, Attainment, Learning and Teaching, Curriculum, Management issues and School Life developments.</p> <p>Additions to the report are noted below: -Curriculum-This is a busy time of year and the early Easter makes it a short term. There was discussion re CfE choices with students choosing 6 subjects. Tom said that students needed to be helped to really consider their choices. Also that universities were much more open about subject choices and that wider achievement was highly considered</p>	
<p>6. Treasurer's Update</p>	<p>We were unable to have a full up date as Heather was not able to attend the meeting. The Burns supper made an approx. £250 profit</p>	
<p>7. Burns Supper Reflections</p>	<p>-Everyone agreed this event had gone very well -We should organise date and band for next year -The Pizzas for helpers cost £64, this cost should be included when the price of the ticket is calculated. We wondered if Mite would heat up pizza?</p>	<p>Date set for Friday 24th</p>
<p>8. Summer Fair</p>	<p>-Date set-Saturday 15 3pm. -discussion re banner Ros, Mary and Beatrice to investigate (This is just about to be ordered by Beatrice-many thanks)</p>	<p>-Organise Social evening Wednesday 20th discuss Summer fair</p>
<p>9 CCWP</p>	<p>-Mary showed us a parental engagement, flow diagram -Minutes are available for all The CCWP meetings -The last meeting had included lots of discussion re the strategic management of school places. The council has to predict the peak of rising roles for the different sectors -New documentation-The draft Parental Engagement Strategy is out for consultation. Feedback required for the end of April. Mary will give further information if needed</p>	

Any other business

Website-Mary had had trouble with down loads. If you have any suggestions for website improvements please e-mail admin@tynecastle. The feedback has been good. You may want to subscribe to the calendar

Letter to distillery-Ros to write an introduction letter to the distillery and to follow this up with a request for a donation to pay for homework diaries

Eco Group-The eco group had written a thank you card for the donation to fund recycling bins

Session Dates-

good idea, and Mary will feed this back

Enterprise-The milk shake business is up and running!!

Councillor Gavin Corbet to be circulated minutes

Next meeting Monday 29

All welcome

3rd June-AGM-Hope this meeting will be on the roof garden with refreshments

Head Teacher's Report

5th March 2013

Staffing update

- Ms L Zhang appointed for maternity cover post in Modern Languages (two weeks extra to allow handover and smooth transition).
- Mr M Call appointed in Maths. Full time permanent.

Attainment

- S5/6 Prelims completed successfully in February.
- Meetings with Curricular Leaders on S4 Prelims/overall attainment review completed. All Faculties issued with overview spreadsheet which shares grades to date in all departments by targeted group. This has been useful in supporting consistent high expectations.

Learning & Teaching

- ipads now issued to all teaching staff, librarian and learning assistants to enhance learning.

Curriculum (including CfE update)

- S2, S3, S4 and S5 coursing under way with support documentation issued and S2 Parent Information Evening planned for Tuesday 5th March at 6.30. S3 Parent Evening last week went well. No specific issues raised by parents at senior team "clinic".
- S2 and S3 Parent packs included feedback/consultation forms to help with future planning. We welcome and feedback/suggestions.
- Staff used the extra in-service day to prepare for new National 4 and 5 courses.
- A number of new vocational option courses introduced to senior curriculum e.g. Health Academy, Laboratory science, mechanics.

Management issues

- Budget balanced. Will have a carry forward. This term allowed bids from department to top up in areas where extra resources/capital items needed. Will also carry forward money from last year in separate fund to support IT. This will fund major refresh enhancement. Still considering purchase of 1:1 devices for specific year groups.
- Very positive feedback from Edinburgh anti-bullying survey returns. For example, 87% of students say we are good/very good at dealing with bullying (City Average is 72%).
- All staff and student council have discussed and commented on the CEC Vision for Schools paper.

School Life Developments

- Sporting/Performance Achievement Awards Ceremony on 14th March.
- Spring Fling (Music event) on 21st March.
- Netherlands Exchange visitors on 11th March.
- Tutor Group and assembly focus in January/February on Citizenship (Choices).
- Easter School programme now completed and being promoted with S4-6.
- P7 visits to Science and HE, as well as a French Theatre performance set up by the department.
- Burns Night a success. Photos on website.
- S6 student's work in Art highly commended in a Royal Academy competition.