

Tynecastle Parent Council Meeting

Date: 3rd March 2015

Attendance:
Tom Rae-Head Teacher, Sue McKendrick-Chair, Angela Bell-Deputy Head, Morag Thomas, Gail Fairgrieve, Caroline Astor, Beatrice Bryant, Jane-Anne Dodds, Ali Grieve, Mary Brownlee, Jackie Ramsay-DHT, Claudia Esslinger - Community Learning and Development Manager, Jim Young-Gorgie Dalry Gala Day, Carol Anne McMahon- Place2be fundraising manager, Councillor Cathy Fullerton
1. Apologies:
Karen Robertson, Ros Marshall

Item	Discussion key points	Action Points
2. Approval of minutes	Minutes approved	
3. Tour of Community Wing	Claudia is the Community Learning and Development Manager and works with Alan - Community learning and development worker and Natalia - Receptionist. The Community Wing is open from 8am to 6pm although this may depend on staff availability. The Centre is available to all in the community, without referrals. It has links with Dalry primary school, Tynecastle Nursery, Tynecastle HS, Health All Round, Surestart. Some of the classes and programmes on offer include PEEP Group, Language classes, EAL, Ladies only groups, Reading and writing for adults, Computing and Raising children with confidence. Information on all courses can be found online at 'joininedinburgh'. Any suggestions for daytime classes should be emailed to Claudia ; claudia.esslinger@ea.edin.sch.uk	
4. Update from Jackie Ramsay - DHT S1-S3	Tynecastle HS was recently a Pilot School for a course entitled 'Raising Teens with Confidence', as part of the Growing Confidence programme. It ran for 2hrs /night for 8 weeks. The feedback from the course was excellent. Approximately 6 schools across Edinburgh are getting staff trained to be able to run the programme including Tynecastle (Jackie Ramsay and Oliver Cook - support for learning teacher) CEC are in the process of improving the format of the S1-S3 Target Setting Report that is issued around October each year. The new format, under Key Aspects for Learning, will include comments on strengths, targets and next-steps within each subject	
5. Jim Young - Gorgie Dalry	Feedback from last year was very positive and everyone was keen for Tynecastle HS participation again this year. The Prison Officers Club also offered to run a Family	

<p>Gala Day</p>	<p>Barbeque. The Gala Day is a non profit-making event, supporting local businesses and community groups, local musicians, bands and performing groups. Entry is free however private stalls pay £10 per stall. Murieston Road and Crescent are closed to traffic to allow public access. Mary gave feedback from the Summer Fair. The two banners next to each other caused some confusion last year and sent some people to Murieston Park. One joint banner with map of all venues- Murieston Park, Tynecastle HS and P.O. Club was suggested. Mary also suggested keeping the £1 entry fee on the door as this raised £171 last year. Agreed to keep timing of school fair at 12-3pm for now rather than matching the gala day 12-5 pm due to insufficient volunteers. Jim confirmed that 3000 brochures are printed at the end of March and circulated just after Easter. Discussed using the same flyer/poster template as last year but maybe publicise on the back what the money raised has been spent on, and update the list of stalls/events. To encourage more student involvement suggested promoting Fair during assemblies and offering prize for best student performer, best student stall etc.. Discussed the possibility of school performers travelling between both venues and also setting up speakers so people outside can hear the music in the school hall, (Marquis available at Murieston park) Jim to contact Sam Wallace, Kirsty Clarke and Jenny Robertson re. performances. Julio Ardillo from Tynie Radio to promote events at all venues during Fair. Suggested that Tynie FM create a different poster to advertise performances. Sue suggested a treasure hunt/quiz with items to be found at each venue and prize draw to encourage participation at all events. Other suggestions included having front doors open so people can see into the hall and more home-baking as it all sold out too quickly last year. HE and CDT departments keep any money that they make. Sue suggested that students could take charge of the stocks and enroll staff or other students Ideas from students included; table tennis tournament, quiz, talent competition, and smoothie-maker bike. Ali confirmed that his colleague at Sustrans - Charlotte Gardener, had a smoothie-maker bike available. He could also find out about pedi-cabs for travelling between venues.</p> <p>Follow up on whether any children might be able to run a stall as part of their JASS award/ Duke of Edinburgh etc and seek feedback from Gordon Love on how the fencing went down last year.</p>	<p>Sue/Beatrice to update flyer/posters and ensure "adverts" for gala brochure with Jim by end of March.</p> <p>Jim</p> <p>Julio</p> <p>Sue to contact student council and Mr Connell</p> <p>Ali</p> <p>Sue</p>
<p>6. Treasurers Report</p>	<p>The assumed balance on 03/03/2015, after cheques/payouts have been cashed, is £3038.04</p>	

7.Funding Requests	<p>New funding requests were received and approved as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Science Club for T-Shirts £50 - Approved -Sports/Performance Awards £100 - Approved -Girls Football Teams- Strips £200 - Approved -Snr Boys Basketball- £77 Balls, £12 Storage bag, £30 Bibs, £51 water bottles/carrier, £150 travel expenses, Total Request = £320 - Approved -Knitting Club - needles wool etc £300 - £150 Approved further info requested re: remainder £150 -PE Blue Socks, Shorts + first aid packs football team - £430 - On hold further info requested -PE Dance costumes - £150 - On hold further info requested re: previous funding allocation <p>Total of all Requests = £1550 £820 Approved</p>	<p>Caroline</p> <p>Angela to request further info</p>
8.Headteacher's Report	<p>Please see foot of these minutes for full Head Teacher's Report</p>	
9.HT Recruitment update	<p>Sue thanked Tom on behalf of the Parent Council for his enthusiastic leadership of the school over the last 6 years. Tom will start his new post after the Easter holiday. David Leslie, Quality Improvements Officer at City of Edinburgh council will chair a Special Parent Council Meeting at 7.00pm on Tuesday 17th March 2015, outlining the process for recruiting a new Head Teacher at Tynecastle HS. This meeting is open to all Parent Council members.</p>	
10.Religious Observation update	<p>Councillor Cathy Fullerton confirmed that parents must be informed about times of Religious Observation classes in school. Students are not obliged to attend but must be engaged in other study instead</p>	
11.AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -STV Edinburgh, Angela and Tom were waiting until the new channel was established before making contact -The PC storage cupboard has been ordered and delivery should be soon -Tom had meeting with Rotary Club who are keen to have links with the school and proposed Associate Membership. Another meeting is planned before Easter -Sue to send a 'Thank You' to all of the Burns Supper student helpers -Caroline has advertised the Fake That night on 25th Sep via Facebook and already sold 60 tickets. -Carol Anne McMahon handed out some information on fundraising from Place2be. 	<p>Tom/Angela</p> <p>Tom</p> <p>Sue</p>

Next Meeting: Special Parent Council Meeting concerning new Head Teacher recruitment process Tuesday 17th March at 7.00 pm

Future Meetings: 28th April - Allocation of funding, Sarah Haywood; Place2be student services, 2nd June (AGM)

Other Key Dates (Taken from Calendar on Website):

Sat 13th June: School Fair 12.00-3.00 pm/Gala Day 12.00-5.00 pm

Fri 25th Sept: 'Fake That' at Prison Officers Club

Head Teacher's Report

3rd March 2015

Staffing update

- No staffing changes to report. Situation stable

Attainment /Achievement

- Prelims have gone smoothly, with positive reports on attitude of students in exams from our invigilation team
- Attainment Meeting 3 with Faculty Heads will take place in March and focus on post-prelim data and final presentations
- New App being used for S3 profiles. Mrs Robertson has been supporting this in PSE classes

Learning & Teaching

- Student-led Learning Rounds will be delivered in March. This is led by Ms Davis, CL science and will focus on use of iPads
- The school will be hosting a visit from other schools who have requested this in order to learn more about implementing 1:1 learning. This will take place on 19th March

Curriculum

- Coursing of S2-S5 continues. Students in Senior Phase being offered a free choice of subjects rather than option columns this session. All students must of course gain a baseline qualification in Maths/English
- We hosted a curricular visit for a number of teachers from Columbia in February. This was well-received. Students from Modern Languages played a key role in delivering this

Management issues

- Meaningful May staff volunteer team established and meeting to plan programme for those students not entitled to exam leave/full leave
- S2 students will complete CEC baseline tests in Maths and English in March as always

School Life Developments

- Large number of students attending WE Day in London (Global Citizenship event) – funded by KPMG.
- Staff team also working with a partner (Create and Connect) to develop the Panda Ethics inter-disciplinary project to be delivered in April/May
- Senior Girls and boys have reached quarter final of Scottish Schools Competition
- Primary Curricular visits continue e.g. Able Mathematicians, visits to CDT/HE last week, Changing Habits for Good
- Piping now being established in primaries. New piping teacher, Mark Bennet. Uptake remains good, but he wants to promote further so new assemblies planned
- Successful Religious Observance Assemblies delivered
- School signed up to exciting new CEC Interdisciplinary Learning initiative (4 other schools involved). It's called Project Kitbag. A team of staff volunteers planning this with the Creative Learning team. It will run in June and involve new S4 and S3.
- Dance Class performed at Dance Quest in Festival Theatre on Wednesday 14th January
- RSA Student competition entry highly commended. John Byrne drawing competition entry results due on 27th March.
- Senior student in in final of local stage of Career Academies annual awards
- Author Kirkland Ciccone visiting on World Book Day to work with a group of students