

Minutes of the Tynecastle Parent & Carer Council Meeting

Monday 13th November 2023, 18:30

Attendees:	Alison Bell (Chair), Gillian Radford (Secretary), Shelagh Stewart (Treasurer), Adewuyi Moses, Nicola Hall, Meghan, Noha Yousif, Esther Omoyomi, Esther Kuperz, Jayshree Gosai, Aeneas Wilder, Dinara Satsenova, Hazel Kinnear, Grace Burns, Moira McKirdy
Apologies:	Gareth Oakley, Hlsham Abdel-Magid

1. Introduction, apologies	<p>Everyone introduced themselves. Alison welcomed everyone to the meeting. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.</p> <p>Alison acknowledged the change of office bearers following the AGM in September 2023. Alison thanked Moira McKurdie,, Gareth Oakley and Hisham Abdel-Magid for their considerable contributions to the PCC over many years.</p>
2. Introduction to work of PCC	<p>With many people being new to the PCC, Alison explained the role and function of the PCC. Key aim is to promote close co-operation and communication between parents and staff. It can support activities which enhance the experience of pupils and be involved in fundraising for the school.</p> <p>The PCC should be a voice for all parents and every parent/carer is welcome. There are also links with other PCCs and opportunities to hear about issues for the locality.</p> <p>The best way to contact the PCC is by email: tynecastlepc@gmail.com</p>
3. House captains update	This was postponed for a later meeting
4. HT Report	<p>Hazel provided an update on school matters since the AGM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staffing: Almost complete staffing role. Social Subject Curriculum Lead has been appointed. Interviews for a Biology teacher (for maternity cover) taking place on 14/11/23. Currently looking for three PSA positions. - Macmillan coffee morning raised £325. This was led by the Personal Development Award Group with Yvonne McGregor. - HK is an associate school inspector and has been out doing an inspection of another school. - Award ceremony was successful with awards given to 112 pupils. - School photos have been reintroduced this year for S1 and S6 - English faculty review ongoing – what going well and what can be improved. - Pupil Equity Fund from Scottish Government to support S1-3 pupils in lower SIMDs. This will be supporting 3 PSOs – Yvonne McGregor, a role to support English as an additional language and another to promote attendance.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Events: A number of information evenings have already taken place and primary roadshows with our feeder schools have been completed - Class Charts: This App enables feedback from school such as praise for work in class, identification of homework and note of completion/outstanding student tasks (among other items). The City Council must approve its use and a decision is still awaiting. - Vision and Values: The Senior Management team have reviewed these given their age and the changes within the school since then. There will be a chance for all others to review as part of the ongoing process of ensuring that these are most appropriate for the school (this will include parents and carers) - School roll – current roll is 830 pupils. - Attainment: Initial attainment data shows our best ever results for the S5/S6 cohort. Insight data available in September. This highlighted two groups for focus going forward. These are a group within S4 with lower attendance and pupils who come in as seniors with very little English. Focus will be on improving attendance (helping those who struggle to get into school and access the curriculum) and supporting pupils with English as a second language. Also looking at whether more national progression awards could be offered. - GB shared what has been done at assembly for pupils during anti-bullying week. Respect Me is Scotland’s anti-bullying agenda. Challenge of how to turn policy into practice. Looking at how to make reporting of bullying easier, two workshops for pupils planned. Parents’ role in monitoring behaviour and social media use particularly was highlighted.
<p>5. Treasurer’s Report</p>	<p>Shelagh reported that they are still dealing with bank account issues. Shelagh attended Treasure Training for PCC role. One option may be to set up a new bank account.</p> <p>The current bank balance is £5,580.12. There is a provision of £1,000 to cover previously commitments to School funds that were not cashed. This means the effective balance is £4,580.12. There is an additional cash balance of £319.71 arising from fund raising efforts last year. This means a total balance of funds of £4,899.83.</p>
<p>6. Requests for funding from school</p>	<p>A number of funding bids were presented to the meeting and approved by the group. These were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dynamic mics for podcasting requested by Ms Wallace 2. Gas stove and 2 gas adapters for Duke of Edinburgh 3. Linguascope subscription for multiple language learners 4. Speaker + costumes for the dance club <p>All requests were given £250 each</p>
<p>7. Potential Fund Raising</p>	<p>Alison outlined that with the change of office bearers it had not been feasible to arrange the Race Night in November. This may be considered later in the year, if there is interest.</p>

	<p>Alison noted that the Burns Night organisation needs a team of volunteers and encouraged those in attendance to offer some time to help or encourage others to come forward. As ever, the more people we can have involved then the less pressure on individuals and the easier it is to achieve a successful event.</p> <p>Action: email to be circulated for volunteers to help with Burns Night which will be on Friday 26th January. There are different roles including organising raffle prizes before the event and on the day of the event itself.</p>
8. A.O.B.	None
9. Date of Next Meeting	Monday 15 th January 2024 18:30