

Dalkeith High School Parent Council Meeting

14 November 2017

7pm Art Department

Present: Allyson Dobson (AD), Caroline Pearson, Morag Ryan, Phil Bowen (PB), Alison Binns, Marianne Flockhart, Diane Hedlund (DH), Stuart McDonald

Apologies: Stephanie Heasman, Julie Darling, Nicola Johnson

Parent/Carer Focus Group

The first hour of the meeting was spent with Maria Lloyd, Senior Education Manager who is taking part in a 3 ½ day formal visit to the school. She also gave some feedback on the results of recent parent/carers and pupil surveys. As the discussions formed part of the inspection, they are not minuted here. If anyone wants to get more information regarding the inspection they should contact the Schools Group Manager, Nicola McGill.

PTA update

DH provided a brief update for the PTA. They have applied to the council for a small grant fund for PE equipment.

Fundraising for musical instruments has still to be organised, but suggestions include:

- Wine/gin/beer tasting
- Lip-sync battle
- Quiz night

It was suggested that P7 parents should be invited to fund raising events, to ensure links with feeder primary schools.

Money is available for a Christmas tree and decorations.

Benches have been ordered.

Plasma screen is being looked into (AD).

Head Teacher update

Thanks to all who supported the P7 open evening. The school show number was great and S1 pupils did an exceptional job scripting, filming and presenting a short video showing what life was like around the school. It was suggested that this could go on the website. **Action AD**

There was some feedback on the P7 evening: could it include something on academic aspects such as attainment, achievements, subjects available and non-academic opportunities.

It would be a good idea if the PTC discussed the format for the next open evening when it is being prepared.

The school has had some difficulty recruiting learning assistants. There is budget for 17 but currently only sitting at 11. Interviews for positions will take place next week.

Four new assistants started recently, all with varying backgrounds. AD highlighted that the school needs to make full use of that resource.

PB suggested that DHS could make use of parents' careers/job stories at careers evenings. Also perhaps join up with Lasswade High school for such events.

There will be a careers evening combined with a coursing evening on 7 February 2018.

AOCB

Previous actions are to be included in the standing agenda.

Parent Council Meeting Dates 2017/2018

16 January 2018
 27 February 2018
 24 April 2018
 29 May 2018

Actions

Ref	Action	Owner	Date Raised	Comments
2017-01	Investigate if the PTA can apply for more funding through Tesco for new PE equipment	Diane Hedlund	26/09/2017	14/11/2017 – PTA have applied to council for funding. Complete
2017-02	Pupil Voice to investigate and detail what PE equipment is needed	PV/Gail Preston	26/09/2017	14/11/2017 – carried forward
2017-03	Investigate with BAM what can be done to accommodate outdoor sheltered area	Allyson Dobson	26/09/2017	14/11/2017 – carried forward
2017-04	Investigate with BAM options for water fountains to fill bottles	Allyson Dobson	26/09/2017	14/11/2017 - carried forward
2017-05	Consider what can be done to accommodate lockers	Allyson Dobson	26/09/2017	14/11/2017 – carried forward
2017-06	PTA to look into getting 2 nd Christmas tree to place in more prominent position, e.g. dining area or assembly hall	Diane Hedlund/ Nicola Johnson	26/11/2017	14/11/2017 – carried forward
2017-07	Speak with Joyce Bain to enable school tweets to be posted on PTC/PTA Facebook page	Phil Bowen	26/09/2017	14/11/2017 – carried forward
2017-08	See if S1 video can be added to school website	Allyson Dobson	14/11/2017	