

WILLIAMWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Monday 6th October 2014

Present : Roddy Wilson Ailsa Crum Cress Maher
 Allan Boyd Cllr Ralph Robertson
 Corinne Durand (Vice-Chair) Bobby Caldwell (Chair)

Observers : Louisa Kane, Ali Kane, Pramurttta Majumdar

In Attendance:

Willie Inglis (Acting HT), Laura Cheyne

1&2 Introduction & Apologies

Apologies - Stewart Miller, Alan Lafferty, Karen Hussain

3 Minutes of and points arising from the previous meeting

Amend spelling errors and post.

4 & 7 Headteachers Report & Staff Report – Willie Inglis

i) Results - WI gave a short presentation on the school results up to 2014, which have been produced according to new criteria. There is also a sharper focus on school leaver destination which also includes overall achievement (see item 5 below).

A summary of results for 2014 is as follows :-

Achieving 5+ qualifications at level 5 (Intermediate 2) in S4 - 76%

Achieving 3+ qualifications at level 6 (Higher) in S5 - 72%

Achieving 5+ qualifications at level 6 (Higher) in S5 - 50%

Achieving 1+ qualifications at level 7 (Advanced Higher) in S6 - 40%

ii) As part of the school improvement plan for session 2014-15, a Leadership Development Programme has been introduced for staff seeking to widen their experience of school leadership or management as part of their personal and professional development. Two separate groups have been established and meet regularly to look at whole school issues, one for promoted staff and another for unpromoted staff. Over 30 staff have volunteered to join this programme.

iii) Events – below are some of the events which have taken place so far this session:

- Freshers' Day - focusing on the clubs available for new S1 pupils
- Freshers' Disco organised by the PTA
- Senior Awards Ceremony
- Independence Referendum (outcome 66% No / 33% Yes)
- S1 / S2 Sponsored Walk & S6 The Wall - raised approximately £7,000 for school funds
- Work Experience for S4 pupils
- Trips including Performing Arts trip to New York & Battlefield trip to Europe.
- Foodbank collections – targeting a different year group each week

In recent years, the school has attempted to organise a major overseas trip for S5 students such as a Malawi trip or World Challenge trip, requiring large-scale fundraising and with a charitable / community activity focus as part of the trip e.g. painting of classrooms in Malawi last session. These activities have involved fundraising events in school and also supported by the whole school community and beyond. This session's proposed World Challenge trip to Ecuador was unable to proceed for a variety of reasons and has been replaced with a cultural visit to China.

S5 pupils will also have the opportunity to put their names forward to participate in an ERC-led trip to Malawi in collaboration with the Betty Cunningham Trust. Pupils will be notified of this opportunity within the next few days once details are available.

5 Recognising Achievement - Laura Cheyne

Laura presented a very interesting review of the achievements of pupils within the school and how the school records this data.

Laura will place a copy of this presentation on the school website in due course.

There followed some discussion as to how the Parent Council might help or support this activity. For example, participating in the Achievement Working Group and generally spreading the word amongst parents.

Action - CD to consider taking the lead on this?

6 Williamwood Young Musician of the Year – Cress Maher

There was some discussion as to how the PC may become involved in this event which takes place in March.

There had been a suggestion that this event might be the focus of a fundraising event - but to support what?

The PC could perhaps assist with administration, selling tickets, help with promotion, catering or hospitality.

Action - CM to arrange a meeting with CS to discuss options and report back.

8 Careers Evening

This event takes place on 28th October. The PC participated last year and recruited a number of people for Flying Start.

This year, the idea is to provide an Interview Support Worksop - where S6 pupils sign up for a mock job, submit a CV and receive feedback online and in person.

The PC will also have a stand to try to promote FS and recruit people to the PC.

Action - AB will organise this along with other HR professionals.

9 Flying Start event - update

Newsletter - a newsletter focusing on the FS event has been produced and will be posted on the school website; there will also be a section on the PC participation in the Careers Event.

Action - BC to write to WI to seek clarification of progress with regard to FS contacts for work experience, PSHE programme and interviews.

10 AOCB

i) Preparation for AGM - BC to draft report and send it all PC members, AC will edit & re-draft. BC to ensure use of school text & Twitter services as well as website. Ask WI to organise extra catering similar to last year.

ii) Parent Council - PC will try to attract new members at the Careers Event

iii) Attending events - 18th Nov 2014 - S5 & S6 Parents evening
- 8th Jan 2015 - S4 Parents evening
- 19th Feb 2015 - S2 Parents evening

iv) S5 trip - see item 4 above; also perhaps consideration should be given to producing a calendar of possible trips / travel opportunities across the school from S1 to S6.

v) Information on the homepage of the school website - review information available and add as necessary

Dates of future meetings :-

17th November 2014 – AGM
12th January 2015
2nd March 2015
27th April 2015
8th June 2015