

MEARNS CASTLE HIGH SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE PARENT CONCIL MEETING

Monday 28 January 2009

Present: H Ormiston, D Smith, B Cook, G Young, A Hutchison, K Gibson, D McPhail-Smith, Councillor Swift, C Sincock, M Dalglish, K Davidson, G Elliot, , P Fletcher, I Laird

Apologies: Councillor Motague, D Barnett, R Gangi, A Coubrough, I Cairns, V Fyfe, K Keatings, K Davenport

1. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of previous meeting adopted on the proposal of K Davidson and seconded by C Sincock.

2. Active Schools Coordinator

Barry Cook gave a presentation of the history and aims of Active Schools including the structure and responsibility of staff.

A questions and answers session followed with the main topic being that parents and older students should be encouraged to be more active.

3. Update on Home/School Study

- Report from P Fletcher, J McKenna and I Phillips on Quiz Inquisitor being piloted by MCHS and available to all staff with home/school access.
- National web based system Scholar being reviewed.
- Group will feedback to Parent Council and consult with Parents.
- Agreement was reached that school website be used to transmit all information.
- Use of Wikes very successful and encouraging.
- Encourage parents to be involved in interface ie signing off homework

4. Correspondence

- Parent Council chairs information
- 2 conferences announced
 - L& T Scotland on 14/3 Making Partnerships Work
 - Scottish Network on 25/2 (a member of staff may attend)
- ERC Public Performance Report Information for Parents
- Bullying Leaflet
- Course at Strathclyde University – A Curriculum for Excellence in July 09
- Parent Council Newsletter
- Fundraising suggestion

A brief discussion took place on all the above and copies available as required.

5. Survey of Parent Councils

A brief discussion took place - H Ormiston will complete questionnaire on Council's behalf. Further discussion ensued on forming various subgroups based on School Plan. There were various suggestions which will be agreed at a later date.

6. Fundraising

- ASDA booked till January 2010 for bag packing and will not take further bookings till October 2009. Most other supermarkets have similar policies and all are giving only 12 placings a year – ie one per month. On the suggestion of other members, I Laird will write to ASDA putting forward MCHS case.
- Fundraising Subcommittee is made up of 7 or 8 members.
- It was suggested that although various groups in the school have a wish list for using funds it would be best to make a decision base on what would benefit all pupils and any large spends to be approved by the Council.
- £384 was raised from the raffle and teas/coffees at the Winter Concert.

7. Head Teacher's Report

- Update on recent appointments
- Recent school events and pupils' achievements highlighted
- Forthcoming events discussed

8. AOCB

- General objection by parents in Scottish Government decision not to allow study leave during Prelim Examinations. Senior Leadership Team reviewing this and consulting with a Parent Focus Group. A report will be made available.
- Recognising Achievement and Raising Attainment - copies will be sent out with Agenda of next meeting.

8. Next meeting will be held on Monday 16 March 2009.