

MEARNS CASTLE HIGH SCHOOL
MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
23 April 2012

Present: C Devenport (Acting Chair), A Beattie (Clerk), D Smith (Head Teacher), J Bond, K Gibson, E Gordon, L McGrouther, C McLaren, L Purcell, J Woods, E Ferguson, Cllr Swift, A Carter

Apologies: J Mack, C Sincock, D Barnett, H Ormiston, A Carter, A Coubrough

1. **Minutes of Last Meeting** accepted on the proposal of Eilidh Ferguson and seconded by Julie Woods.
2. **Matters Arising** – none
3. **Correspondence** – Summary of Minority Ethnic Parent Consultation and Summary Statistics for ERC Schools (both available on ERC website)
4. **Free Your Feet – Emma Gordon**
 - Free Your Feet is an initiative to encourage children to walk to school. There will be a Walk to School Week – 21 May to 25 May.
 - The national average is 45%, Mearns Castle is 27%
 - Preparation - Pupil Council Consultation, Survey of pupils' travel, Experiences and outcomes sent to teachers, Suggestions from health and wellbeing working group as to interdisciplinary learning Geography - routes to school, Maths - distance, speed, time, PSE - Road Safety
 - Promotion - Parental newsletter, Letters sent to parents, Advert on school website, Banner / advert outside of the school, S1-S3 Pupil presentations at Assemblies
5. **Head Teacher's Report**
 - School Uniform**
 - Members were issued analysis of Parents Evaluation Questionnaires
 - Parent Focus groups to take place 25 and 26 April
 - School Uniform Information Evening to held on Tuesday, 22 May 2012

Updates

- School Uniform Consultation
- Parents' Focus Groups this week
- Parents' meeting Tuesday 22 May 6pm
- P7 Parents' meeting Thursday 24 May

Recent Highlights

- S5 pupils involved in Eco Schools Conference – Green Flag
- S3 pupil involved in West of Scotland Paralympic Pathway Festival for Boccia
- S3-S5 pupils involved in European Youth Parliament Forum
- Pupils performed a concert at Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice
- Pupils interviewed on local radio for National No-smoking Day
- I am involved with a group of Head Teachers working with Strathclyde University on the impact of Curriculum for Excellence
- We now have an Equestrian Team
- Impressive performances at the Scottish Schools Cross Country Championships
- Pupils made a presentation at the national launch of the Education Scotland 'Studying Scotland' on-line resource
- The ELT were given a presentation on aspects of the new National 4 and National 5 Qualifications by a representative of the SQA
- Modern Languages pupils participated in a debate at Heriot Watt University
- A number of Duke of Edinburgh expeditions
- Pupils participated in the MACE debating final
- S2 pupils won the Schools Poetry Slam at the Aye Write Festival
- The Theatre has been refurbished
- New projection and sound equipment has been installed in the Open Area
- Higher Geography pupils had a field trip on a speed boat on the River Clyde
- S3 Spanish Pupils visited Tinto Tapas Bar

- S2 Champions in School Group visited Susan Egelstaff's badminton training session
- Music staff hosted a very successful 'Night at the Movies' concert
- We continue to develop our Sporting Hall of Fame
- U15 football team are in the final of the St Mirren Cup
- S1/S2 Maths team came 4th in the UKMT Team Challenge
- S6 YES team won 4 awards, including the Best Team award at the Renfrewshire Area finals
- Houses presented cheques to a range of Charities at House Assemblies
- S3 Exams started today
- Andrew Mullen (S4) is in the GB Swim Team for the Paralympic Games in London

Coming Up

- Leavers' Ceremonies
- SQA Exams
- P7 Transition events
- Start of New Timetable
- S6 Prom
- UPBEAT Day Out / Various Trips

6. Parent Council Update

- Jon Mack and Caroline Sincock are attending a Recruitment and Selection course tonight. Laura Purcell has also completed this course

7. AOB

- PTA – Julie Woods informed members that the Matalan Fashion show had to be cancelled due to poor ticket sales.
- PTA – Quiz Night on Friday 11 May 2012 – tickets £5 – helpers required to help run bar (A Beattie to email members to ask for volunteers)