

Airdrie Academy

Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 5th November 2014

Attending; Wil McGhie, Jan Javidan, Lorna McIndoe, David Lawson, David Smith, Lynn Stewart, Alexandra McNeil, Andrew Gilmour, Daun Ferguson, David Miller School Captain, Victoria Addies School Vice-Captain, Graeme Nolan, Ian Fannon, Peter Sullivan Local Councillor.

Apologies; Linda Whyte, Derek Espie, Margaret McKenna, Lesley Coburn, Scott Cornfield, Jim Logue.

Minutes from previous meeting were proposed by David Smith, seconded by Alexandra McNeil

Matters Arising;

School Website;

The school website is now up and running. Items are now being updated on a daily / weekly basis.

Merit System;

A member of the parent Council stated that she was not happy with the way the merit system was working in the past. It was brought to the attention of the council that the system had under gone refurbishment. Leaflet went out by pupil post informing Parents / Guardians of the change.

National Parent Forum;

130 Parent Council parents attend the event held in Bishopbriggs High School on Saturday 4th October 2014. Airdrie Academy was represented by the Chairperson. There were a wide variety of Seminars on the day. Airdrie Academy attended 3 seminars which involved SQA, Maths and Scottish Government to improve Parental engagement/involvement. The Chairperson urged other members of the council to attend the next Forum meeting.

PE;

It was raised at the meeting that pupils were outside in wet weather taking part in their PE lesson with no outdoor jackets on while the teacher had a waterproof jacket on. The Head Teacher stated that PE is done in blocks of 10 and pupils should be told to bring jackets suitable for outdoors. He will raise this matter with the PE department. Majority of the pupils are wearing the school PE t-shirts during their lessons.

PC Allowance;

There is an allowance that comes into the school for each pupil, clerk / administration and photocopying etc.

School in Partnership with Business;

After discussions various ideas were; to have Partners to come in and give some mock interviews, K9 partners to talk about dogs working with people with disabilities, different pathways through the NHS Police Scotland and Rotary and Round Table representatives speaking with the senior pupils. Some members of the council and school staff will hopefully take these ideas forward.

Parent Council Newsletter;

A newsletter will be sent out to Parents / Guardians quarterly. The vice chairperson agreed to work on this idea.

Fund Raising Committee;

There will be a Christmas Fayre held in the school on Saturday 6th December from 11am – 2pm. Stall holders are now to be confirmed and prizes / raffles have started to come into the school.

Next meeting for the group will be held on Wednesday 26TH November.

The Art Department has given the council paintings / drawings to select items for the school calendar.

Partnership with Associated Primaries;

An idea raised at the meeting was to hold an evening with the associated primaries where different stalls i.e. chess, beat the goalie etc. for the P7 to join in a night of fun. Stalls would possibly run by the seniors and council members.

Yearly Insurance;

Insurance was taken out for the S1 disco and up and coming events.

Head Teachers Report;

See separate sheet.

Homework Policy;

The Learning and Teaching group have been working together to revamp the schools homework policy. This new homework policy will hopefully be launched in the New Year. Significant changes taking place in the policy will be Broad General Education, senior phase and Feedback from Parents / Guardians.

Correspondence;

A letter was received from the School Captain thanking the council for the donation of money to each house activity.

A report from National Parent Forum of Scotland on Sharing and Learning.

Emails sent from Children in Scotland.

A letter from EIS representative regarding future NLC staff cuts. A copy of the letter will be sent to all parent council members.

AOCB;

The council asked if any of the Art work hanging around the school could be sold to raise money.

An idea was suggested to hold a Gala dinner and auction with MS Society to publish and sell the work to different companies.

Open Evening;

Members of the council attending the recent open evening wore the school PE t-shirts with the school badge to be noticed by the public and answered any questions.

Noticeboard;

The council would like a notice board at the front of school to display any news and forthcoming events.

A parent expressed concerns regarding the Ice Cream vans sitting outside the school gates as his daughter's school bag was damaged. There is an ongoing appeal with the council regarding the removal of the vans from the school.

S2 Reports were disappointed by a parent as he felt there was no personal report. If any queries parents should contact the school ASAP to discuss their child's report.

Date of next meeting; Wednesday 7th January 2015 @ 7.30pm.