

Meeting of Bellshill Academy Parent Council held on Monday, 19 August 2013

Present: Mrs A Munro(Head Teacher), Mr D. Jamieson (Chairperson), Mrs J Goddard (Vice Chairperson), Mrs B Shilliday (Parent Member), Mrs C Gowrie (Parent Member), Mr S Foye (Parent Member), Mrs L Gardiner (Parent Member), Mr D Forwell (Parent Member), Mrs I Morton (Treasurer), Mrs C Hendry (Parent Member), Mrs E Gowrie (Parent Member), Ms L Gillen (Parent Member), Mrs J Ford (Co-opted Member), Mrs J. Ward (Clerk to the Council).

Apologies: None

Welcome

Mr Jamieson welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new session and to our new members, Mrs Gowrie and Mrs Hendry.

Previous Minutes

These had previously been circulated and were approved as a true record of the meeting.

Finance

Mrs Morton advised that the grant of £700 from NLC had been received for stage curtains and she would now arrange for the funds to be transferred to the school fund for payment. Balance in account was now approximately £265 but she was waiting for an up to date bank statement.

Trust Update

The OSCR charity status for the Trust had been approved. The Trust had agreed to pay towards the cost of the summer school trip to Fordell Firs. Mr Jamieson and Mrs Munro expressed their thanks to both June Ford and Yvonne Macbean for once again a very successful summer school.

Head Teacher Report

Mrs Munro gave a short presentation on the SQA results. These have improved again this year and she is hopeful that on appeal we will increase our results. Attendance statistics show that we are 5th in NLC overall and 6th for exclusions. After the appeals have been received Mrs Munro will report further.

Mrs Munro then went on to speak about staffing this session. We have temporary staff in Biology, English, French and Physical Education. Mrs Lennox has been promoted to Acting Principal Teacher Support for Behaviour covering for Jim Bettley who is on secondment. Interviews are due to take place this week for an acting Principal Tteacher of Pupil Support to cover for Mr Somerville who is on long term sick absence.

With the restructuring of support staff posts, Sharon Quate, Finance Assistant, has now been transferred to Coatbridge High School. Mark Gray secured the Senior Technician post at Cardinal Newman High and in his place we have a Technical Technician for half

of the week as our role only entitles us to this. Mr Edward McKenna has joined the Technician team as Senior Technician specialising in Science.

During the long term absence of Elaine Kelly, Principal Teacher of Biology, Barry McBride has agreed to take over this alongside his job as Principal Teacher of Chemistry / Physics.

Again due to NLC restructuring we have been given a Librarian for 2 ½ days a week for the next four weeks after which a decision will be made regarding longer term.

The school roll is at its highest in recent years and this will be confirmed with Personnel at the end of August. S5 and S6 numbers are the highest for a long with 60 and 111 in each year. S1 intake this session is 104.

During the summer holidays a complete computer refresh programme took place with all computers in school being upgraded to Windows 7.

As we had made some savings in our energy budget and this had been returned to us, Mrs Munro intended to purchase new monitors for use in classrooms.

The Ipad project which has been running for the last 2 sessions is still continuing with the same year group. These will be issued to pupils once the update of ipads to the new system has been completed.

Pupils will be attending the Scottish Learning Festival to do a presentation on the use of the Ipad in school.

The upgrade in Technical has been completed. It is hoped that the hockey pitches will be upgraded soon.

Correspondence

Letter received from NLC Grants declining further funds on the grant application which we had submitted. However the £700 which was granted as mentioned earlier has been used for the stage curtains.

AOCB

It was agreed to hold an Internet Safety / Social Media information evening for parents of pupils in S2-4 with senior pupils helping. This will be held on our next meeting which is 23 September at 6.30pm. June Ford and Joan Ward will arrange for leaflets to be printed and distributed to parents via pupils along with a letter. Mrs Morton will arrange for Tesco Phone Shop to come along on the night. Tea and coffee will be available.

The parent council discussed the possibility of an evening for parents regarding the new NAT 4/5. Mrs Munro stated that she would speak to principal teachers and report back at next meeting.

The Open Night is on Wednesday 11 September if any member of the Parent Council would like to come along to help they would be very welcome.

The fundraising bag pack for the Parent Council has been arranged for November 16th. A rota and times will be discussed prior to this.

Teacher Representative

Due to Jim Bettley now on secondment Mrs Munro will email staff asking for interest in joining the Parent Council.

A night out has been arranged for Friday 4th October in Riva in Bothwell. Mrs Gardiner will collect deposits at the meeting on 23 September.

Dates for Next Meetings

The next meeting for Parent Council is the Internet Safety night on Monday 23 September and the next meeting for ordinary business will be on Monday 4 November at 6.30pm