

## **Annual General Meeting of Bellshill Academy Parent Council held on Monday, 28 April 2014**

**Present:** Mrs A Munro ( Head Teacher), Mr D. Jamieson (Chairperson), Mrs B Shilliday (Parent Member), Mrs C Gowrie (Parent Member), Mrs C Hendry (Parent Member), Mr D Forwell (Parent Member), Mrs E Gowrie (Parent Member), Mrs L Gardiner (Parent Member), Mrs J Goddard (Parent Member), Mrs C A Gowrie (Parent Member), Mr S Foye (Parent Member), Mr A Moore, Mr G Webb (Teacher Representatives), Mrs J Ford (Co-opted Member), Mrs J. Ward (Clerk to the Council).

**Apologies:** Mrs A Boslem

Mr Jamieson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Annual General Meeting of the Parent Council.

### **Previous Minutes**

These were read over and taken as a true record of the meeting.

### **Finance Report**

Unfortunately the Treasurer was unable to attend and therefore no report was available. However Mr Jamieson stated that as soon as he receives the report he will forward on to members.

### **Election of Office Bearers**

The meeting moved on to the election of new office-bearers for the next year. Mrs Morton who is at present the Treasurer is standing down as is Mrs Shilliday as both parents will now have no children attending Bellshill Academy. Mr Jamieson expressed the thanks of all the members for the support and help they have given to the Academy over the last few years.

#### Chairperson

Mr Jamieson was re-elected and this was seconded by Mr Forwell and Mrs C Gowrie

#### Vice Chairperson

Mrs Goddard was re-elected and this was seconded by Mr Foye and Mrs Shilliday

#### Treasurer

Mr Forwell was elected and seconded by Mrs Goddard and Mr Jamieson

#### Co-opted Member

Mrs June Ford was duly re-elected as a co-opted member and Mrs Gardiner and Mrs E Gowrie seconded this appointment.

#### Clerk to Board

Mrs Joan Ward was re-elected and this was seconded by Mrs Gardiner and Mrs E Gowrie

Mr Jamieson thanked everyone for their support over the year and looked forward to the next session and the challenges that face the school.

This part of the meeting was then closed and moved on to ordinary business.

## **Ordinary Business**

### **Previous Minute**

This had been circulated, read and approved.

### **Head Teacher Report**

Mrs Munro stated that she had 3 main items which she wanted to report on.

### **Visit by Cabinet Secretary**

The Cabinet Secretary, Mr Mike Russell, visited the school on Thursday 24 April as part of the Pathfinder Project which the school was involved in along with 5 other schools in Scotland.

Bellshill Academy had been picked as the first school for this visit and Mrs Munro said that the pupils had given an excellent presentation. The presentations by Barry McBride, Lesley Heffernan and Yvonne Macbean had similarly been well received. A discussion took place after with the Minister at which 2 members of the parent council, Mr Foye and Mr Jamieson also attended. Mrs Munro stated that she had received positive feedback from representatives of the Scottish Government after the visit.

Mrs Munro added her thanks to the parents and pupils for their tremendous work and support.

### **Refurbishment**

Mrs Munro then went on to advise the Parent Council on the refurbishment plans for the school.

The Science department will be fully refurbished and this will hopefully be completed during the summer break. The refurbishment will give the school 5 modern labs and a classroom.

Mrs Munro is hopeful that after completion of the Science department, multi gym and dance studio can then be done.

The pupil 'social area' is to be upgraded with new furniture which along with funds from the Parent Council and the Trust will be replaced. It is hopeful that the flooring will be looked at by NLC and that this will also be replaced. The area will then be painted once all this work has been completed.

The senior study room is to be fully refurbished with help from the Trust and a meeting will be arranged at the start of the new session or before with the new senior pupils to discuss how this will be taken forward.

### **Management Restructures**

Mrs Munro then moved on to the Efficiency Savings which would affect the Management Structures in the school.

The new structures will take place from August 2014 however there will be no interviews in school for the new posts being created. 3 new posts are as follows:

**Principal Teacher Science – Barry McBride.** At present Mr McBride is PT for Chemistry / Physics and is at present overseeing Biology while Ms Kelly is on long term sick. However in agreement with Ms Kelly Mr McBride will take over as PT for Biology with the department now becoming a Science faculty. Ms Kelly will remain in post here as a Biology Teacher.

**Principal Teacher Business, Enterprise and ICT – Lesley Heffernan.** At present Lesley is PT for these subjects. As from August Home Economics will also become part of her department due to the retirement of Mrs Roulston.

S1&S2 will be given extra time in Business and ICT from August and seniors taking Home Economics can take a new subject, Creative Cake Decorating.

**Principal Teacher Support for Learning Inclusive – Angeline Boslem.** The post of Principal Teacher Support for Behaviour is being combined with Support for Learning. At present this is being covered by Lesley Lennox on an acting basis while Jim Bettley, the substantive post holder is on secondment. On his return, Mr Bettley will return to his post of PT Pupil Support.

Mrs Munro then went on to explain the new House structure from August. Instead of 4 Houses there will now be 3. Pupil Support staff will meet shortly to restructure pupils into the new houses but families will still stay in the same house group. Parent Council members were asked to think about what the new houses should be called and the view was that it should have a Scottish theme.

Mr Somerville, Principal Teacher Pupil Support is retiring in June. Until the return of Mr Bettley, an acting up post will be available for the 4<sup>th</sup> member of the pupil support team. 3 of the PT's will head up a house each with the 4<sup>th</sup> member being in charge of Personal Support Entitlement (Tutor Time) along with possibly working with leavers in S4 & S5. A further meeting of Depute Head Teachers in Charge of Pupil Support is arranged for 12 May to discuss how to take this post forward.

### **Senior Management Team**

As of August 2014 the school will only have 3 Depute Head Teachers. Mrs Chalmers has volunteered to be declared surplus. Mrs McGraw is going on Maternity Leave at the beginning of June and Mrs Munro has advertised internally the acting post. In light of Mrs McGraw's maternity leave cover will be required for her subjects and Mrs Munro will request a Geography teacher to cover.

The remaining Depute Head Teachers' remits will be reviewed and job-sized.

### **Home School Partnership**

June Ford gave information on a Transition booklet which is being piloted and will include things such as CSI, Glow, 2 day visit and summer school. All pupils will be accredited for this. Bellshill Academy is the only school involved in the pilot and a report will be done at the end of the project.

The annual trip to Fordell Firs during the summer school is going ahead as usual with the Trust helping to fund this.

One of our senior pupils was nominated for the Youth Award and 2 of our pupils will be giving a talk at the Learning and Leisure Committee meeting on Tuesday 29 April.

### **Trust Update**

As reported earlier in meeting, the Trust are hoping to help with the refurbishment of the Senior study room.

### **Prizegiving**

The parent council agreed to once again fund the hire of the gowns for SMT for prizegiving.

### **AOCB**

Mr Jamieson stated that next session we will need to look at fundraising activities for the school and to help with that a small sub group will be established.

### **War Memorial Competition**

The recent War Memorial Competition to write a verse of Poetry to be displayed in the new Memorial garden was won by a Bellshill Academy pupil. Over £300 worth of prizes have been donated and these will be distributed between the schools taking part. A glass plaque with the verse will be given to the winning pupil and their name will be inscribed on a bench beside the garden.

Mr Jamieson informed the Parent Council of a recent interview he did with the Herald. So far no date has been given when this will be published.

Mr Jamieson also stated that he still has to register the Parent Council for the 'easyfundraising' website.

Mr Jamieson gave the meeting an update on the proposed pitches development. The Public Consultation had closed and a meeting would be held on Thursday 8 May in the YM. At the moment it looks as though this may go ahead as planned.

The Parent Council agreed to take part in the St Andrew's Fun Run in September.

The date of the next meeting of the Parent Council which will be the last for the session will be held on Monday 2 June at 6.30pm.

The meeting then closed.