

Meeting of Bellshill Academy Parent Council held on Monday, 24 February 2014

Present: Mr D. Jamieson (Chairperson), Mrs C Gowrie (Parent Member), Mr S Foye (Parent Member), Ms L Gillen (Parent Member), Mrs L Gardiner (Parent Member), Mrs J Goddard (Parent Member), Mrs E Gowrie (Parent Member), Mrs I Morton (Parent Member), Mr G Webb (Teacher Representative), Mrs A Boslem (Teacher Representative), Mr A Moore (Teacher Representative) Mrs J. Ward (Clerk to the Council).

Apologies: Mr D Forwell, Mrs B Shilliday, Mrs A Munro, Mrs J Ford, Mrs C Hendry, Mrs L Lennox

Matters Arising

Sports Ground

Mr Jamieson handed round a diagram of the proposed sports ground development. The group looking at refurbishment of the grounds have asked the school for suggestions as to what they would like to see being developed. Suggestions such as a running track were put forward and Mr Jamieson would take these back to the group. Mr Jamieson explained to the parent council that plans had also been looked at to develop the ash pitch and cover it with a Dome in order to be able to use all year round. However nothing final has been decided. He also stated that a public consultation would be held on Thursday 20 March between 5&7pm in the YMCA and again on Saturday between 10 and 12 noon. Mr Webb suggested that the Principal Teacher of Physical Education be consulted on what the department needs would be. Mr Jamieson stated during the school day there would be a secure access.

Finance

Mrs Morton stated that she did not have an up to date statement however there was at present £1076.71 in the account. Mr Jamieson, as the only signatory present, stated he would try and get a statement posted out to the school.

Trust Update

Mr Jamieson stated that there had not yet been a meeting so at present there was nothing to report.

Grant Application

Mrs Ward had completed the application form and would be sending it off this week to ensure it was in before the deadline.

HT Report

Mr Webb gave the report in the absence of Mrs Munro. The 33 period day consultation was over and Wednesday would be the long day. This was now at Kildonan Street and school were waiting to hear from them.

The structure of the new timetable was discussed. Parent council members were asked for their opinion on the number of subjects S4 pupils should be studying and agreement was reached that 7 would be possibly best. Mr Webb would report back to Mrs Munro.

Staffing for next year was still under discussion with authority but it was hoped that the school would not lose any teacher this session. However management structure was still being discussed. The staff who applied for early retirement had not yet been identified and this would not be known until the middle of March.

The number of pupils coming from the associated primaries had increased and this was good news for staffing numbers.

A new approach to wider achievement will now include Primary 7 and S1 and will be led by June Ford and Yvonne Macbean, Home School Partnership Officers.

Pathfinders

Mrs Munro and Mr Johnston along with Mr McBride and Mrs Heffernan, Principal Teachers gave a presentation to a large group of government ministers and other education officials and feedback from that seemed to suggest that Bellshill Academy were further ahead with the project than the other 5 schools from other areas in Scotland.

Mr Webb also stated that the prelim results for National 5 were very encouraging.

Mr Jamieson thanked Mr Webb for the report and asked him to pass on to Mrs Munro and the rest of the staff that the Parent Council fully supported everything being done by them for the benefit of their children.

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Monday 31 March with the AGM being held on Monday 28 April.

There being no further business Mr Jamieson thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.