

## **Bellshill Academy Parent Council Minute 06 October 2014**

**Present** – D Jamieson, A Moore, S Foye, C Hendry, E Gowrie, C Gowrie, D Forwell, T Thompson, J Thompson, L Gardiner, G Webb, A Munro, L Marsh.

**Apologies** – A Boslem, L Lennox, J Goddard

The first part of the meeting was given over to a presentation by Mr Webb regarding GIRFEC this was an open invite to all parents.

Mrs Munro gave a report on a meeting regarding the proposed transfer of the pitches to the ABC steering group. NLC have declared that our playing fields are surplus and as such can be transferred to the ABC group. The NLC surveyor has put a stall on this until the schools requirements have been written in and as such, the application for an asset transfer and formal planning will not go before the council until February.

Concerns were raised about usage and as such we have asked that all users have been PVG checked if they are using the grounds during school day. A further meeting has been arranged for the 23<sup>rd</sup> October and reported back to the next Parent council meeting.

A report on staffing was presented. The parent council congratulated Mrs Boslem and Mrs Lennox on gaining promoted posts and we wished them well in their new schools. An English teacher has been appointed to cover Mrs Casement who is off ill, adverts have been placed for teaching staff in Business, Home Economics and principal of Pupil Support and we hope to have these filled by the next meeting. Alistair Moore was successful in his interview for acting Depute. A supply PT French will be sought until Alistair can take up his post again.

The retention of staff and the non advertising of post was of concern and there was a discussion as to the merits of writing to the cabinet secretary for education expressing our concerns about the lack of staff that we can call on to fill vacancies.

Furniture for the blue room has been ordered and we will contribute toward this.

The new science labs are around 2 weeks from completion. There are plans to redevelop the rooms on the floor below and drawings will be done when a decision on usage has been made.

A group of senior students attended a weekend residential course at the National Police College where they learned how criminal justice system works. The Lord Advocate and a Senior Lawyer offering both defence and prosecution were present to answer questions about the weekend.

As a parent body we are interested in finding out how the homework and study groups were working. We would also like feedback from parents and to this end Alistair Moore agreed to head up a small group with Lesley Gardiner and invite Yvonne McBean to formulate a parent survey. This hopefully will be sent out prior to the next meeting.

June Ford has asked to do a presentation to the next meeting around a project for health week around violence prevention.

We are also asking the "Malawi Students" to come back and talk to us about how they got on while they were away.

The meeting concluded at 8.45

Next meeting Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm Jura suite.