

MINUTES OF MEETING OF DUNBAR GRAMMAR SCHOOL COUNCIL
Held on Tuesday 24 April 2012

Present:

Iain MacKenzie (Chair)	Lewis Rae (Headboy)
Jacquie Bell (Councillor)	Alice Clubb (Staff)
Kate Darrah (Parent) (from item 3 below)	
Susan Guy-Inglis (Parent)	
Graeme Parkes (Parent)	

Attending:

Mr P Raffaelli (Headteacher), Mrs L Leslie (Clerk)

1. Welcome and Apologies

Iain MacKenzie welcomed members. Apologies were received from Karen Baikie, Sally Brown, Rebecca Clow, Julia Dorin, Carol Dunham, Paul McLennan, Diane Watt and Gillian Williams.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting on 21 March 2012 were amended to include an apology for absence from Jacquie Bell, they were approved and proposed by Alice Clubb and seconded by Iain McKenzie.

3. Head Teacher's Report

Mr Raffaelli reported on the following matters:-

Item 1 - New Management Structure

The second round of interviews was now complete and the School would be entering the third round to appoint a PT Curriculum of Mathematics as this position was not matched in the second round. The position will be open to candidates already employed by East Lothian Council in the first place. If a preferred candidate is not identified then this post would be advertised nationally. One parent member of DGSC will be required to sit on the interview panel and Iain McKenzie will email members to ascertain their interest and availability.

Action IM

The results of the second round of interviews were as follows:

PT Pupil Support - Lesley Gillies

PT Support for Learning – Dorothy Patterson

PT Guidance – Iain Robertson, Annette Rawson and Susan Wood
(Pamela McIntosh was matched to PT Inclusion at Preston Lodge)

PT Curriculum - Social Subjects – Marion Morris (from Preston Lodge)

PT Curriculum - Health and Wellbeing – Simon May

PT Curriculum Modern Languages – Sheilagh Fallon

PT Curriculum English – Lindsay Baldwin

PT Curriculum Technologies – Elaine Taylor PT Curriculum Science – Richard Woof

PT Curriculum Expressive Arts – Fiona Cairns

PT Curriculum Mathematics – to be appointed

Substantive Principal Teachers not matched to a PT position and Acting Principal Teachers will revert to classroom teachers at DGS from 5 June 2012.

As East Lothian Council had removed the moratorium on appointing permanent members of staff, there would be a number of advertisements on 27 April 2012 for positions at DGS:

1 Full-time English, 1 Full-time Drama, 1 Full-time French, 1 Full-time PE, 1 Full-time Business Education with Computing, 1 Full-time Chemistry with Biology, 1 Part-time (0.4) Physics, 1 Part-time (0.8) Art and Design, 1 Part-time (0.5) RME.

There would also be maternity cover as acting PT of Modern Languages open to substantive ELC teachers.

Mr Raffaelli would keep the School Council informed of the outcomes.

Action PR

Item 2 – Curriculum for Excellence

There was nothing to update.

Item 3 – S5/S6 Induction

A question was raised regarding some confusion around S5 and S6 students returning to School after study leave and starting their new timetable. Mr Raffaelli explained that students would return on 5 June for a full day of Induction, 6 June would be a whole-school Olympics Rich Task, and on 7 June a motivational speaker would be coaching them in teambuilding, leadership and aspirational thinking skills. Although the new timetable did not begin until 13 June and students would attend their old classes they would be supplied with course work for their new subject choices to avoid any time being wasted. Mr Raffaelli agreed to send home to parents and students information about the new system.

Action PR

4. DGSA Report

There was no report.

5. Treasurer's Report

- a) Due to the Treasurer's absence the drawing of the 200 Club number was postponed to the next meeting. The notional balance stood at £2,785.06.
- b) There had been a request for funding from Social Subjects and RME for £500 towards the cost of the S1 Rich Task to Edinburgh. The request was discussed and approved unanimously. Leigh Leslie would inform Mrs Muir, Karen Baikie, Michael Graven and Christine Bowman.

Action LL

6. Teachers' Report

Alice Clubb reported that the time before Easter had been quite difficult for all staff due to the stresses of the process around the new management structure but felt that the students had been protected from it. She said that staff were refreshed and positive after the Easter break and a lot of work had gone into getting students ready for their forthcoming exams.

7. Student Council Report

- a) Lewis Rae reported on the results of the vote on changes to the school uniform. There was more than 75% agreement in favour for the four proposed changes; which were: tailored grey trousers, grey skirts, black cardigans with School badge and house ties.
- b) This meeting would be Lewis' last as he would be leaving School after his exams, the DGSC wished him all the best for his exams and the future and thanked him for his work.

8. Correspondence

a) An email had been circulated from Parent Council East Lothian regarding the proposal for two additional in-service days next session to allow additional preparation for S3 profiling and the new qualifications. After a brief discussion around the dates of 15 August and 18 September, DGSC had no objections and Iain MacKenzie would feedback to Val McIntyre.

IM

b) The School had received a request from Colin Baird of Transportation at ELC asking if DGSC would like to give feedback on the new pedestrian crossing system at the junction of West Port and Dunbar High Street. Iain MacKenzie asked members to contact Mr Baird directly if they had anything to feedback. Leigh Leslie would send Mr Baird a copy of these minutes.

LL

9) AOCB

a) Jacquie Bell stated that the Twinning Association was hosting a French exchange taking place from 9 to 15 May with 2nd and 3rd year students from Lignieres. Mr Raffaelli reported that ELC had given the School funding to pay for the cost of PVG disclosures and that a huge amount of work had taken place in organising the event.

b) Jacquie Bell said that after attending the DGSC for five years this would be her final meeting. Iain MacKenzie on behalf of DGSC thanked her for her contribution and wished her well for the future.

c) It was noted that the shelving required for the storage of the pitch floodlighting had been identified and sourced and will be arriving soon. Iain MacKenzie said it was a real success and persistence had paid off.

d) It was noted that DGSC wished students all the best for their upcoming exams.

10) Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Wednesday 23 May at 7pm.