



MINUTES

DATE: WEDNESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2011

PRESENT: Tim Holden (Chair) Parent
Ian Smith Parent
Kim White Parent
Vicky Cole Parent
Andrew Greathead Parent
Derek Simpson Parent
Mark Wylie Parent
Kath Anderson Staff
Linda McInnes Staff
Sarah Ingham Staff

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Craig Head Teacher
Cllr Tom Trotter
Ms Beverley Skirrow Business Manager
Ms A Cosgrove Clerk

ATTENDING Greg Cookson Parent

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year. Apologies were received from Provost Richardson.

2. Minutes of Meeting of 1 June:
Agreed a correct record.

3. Update on School Budget

Beverley Skirrow presented an update on the school budget, noting that all figures were provisional until the September census. She made the following points:

- Core funding was down on last year, but the roll could be higher than expected.
- Maternity costs had been centralized but long terms absence costs would be lower. There was an increase in teaching and support staff.
- The carry forward figure from last year was £39,000
- Staffing was complete and recruitment in place
- Photocopying costs were down as were staff development costs
- A prudent approach was best until the final census figure was clarified after census
- A lot had been spent already on Curriculum for Excellence

Parents asked about staff training costs, and Mrs Craig explained that these had been reduced, with more training been done in-house to save costs.

Ms Skirrow explained that 98% of the budget was spent on staffing costs. There was a new FTE Classroom Auxiliary post.

Staff gave information about using materials on the school website rather than photocopying, and Mrs Craig explained that the school was trying to move away from booklets for pupils to write in. A whole school afternoon had been spent in preparing resources for the website.

Ms Skirrow was thanked for her presentation.

4. Chairperson's Report

Tim Holden advised that he would be standing down at the end of the meeting. He proposed Vicky Cole as the new Chair, seconded by Kim White. This being the only nomination, Vicky was duly appointed Chair.

Tim noted that he had received some correspondence from parents concerning the Chemistry department and asked about the level of uptake and if the department was meeting pupils' needs. Mrs Craig advised that she would be meeting the Head of Department where she would raise concerns and report back to the next meeting.

5. Pupils' Matters

None.

6. Head Teacher's Report

Mrs Craig reported on the following matters:

Exam Results - Mrs Craig gave a presentation on the exam results at Standard Grade and at Higher. She noted that out of a cohort of 153, 148 had achieved 5 Standard Grades, and pupils had outperformed the MiDYiS testing at every level. The results in English and Maths were very good.

At Higher level, results had again been very good, and 9 pupils had achieved 5 Highers at Band A. 24 pupils had obtained 1 or more Advanced Highers.

Discussions with Faculty and Department Heads about the results would be ongoing, with changes to the Development Plan if this was thought necessary.

Staffing – a report on staffing was made to members, noting that 7 NQTs had arrived.

Annual Report – Mrs Craig would provide this for the October meeting.

Start of Term – had gone well, with some chopping and changing in light of results. Thanks were made to Expressive Arts, who had organized evening events.

Events – Mrs Craig gave details of the following events:-

- The National Theatre of Scotland School Exchange
- The School had won the British Council International Schools Award for the third time
- The Tots and Teens facility was now open. Ten children were in the playgroup, with 2 third year pupils at a time involved in their care
- The Lab in a Lorry was visiting the following Tuesday and Wednesday. Iain Gray MSP had attended.

Kim White asked if the new timetable was working well, and Mrs Craig said that the first day back had been calmer than before.

Other events were a School Disco the following evening; the whole school photo; UCAS evening, S1 settling in evening on the 22nd (Vicky will do a slot and leaflets would be put on seats inviting sign up from parents); P7 evening on 11 October; and an invitation to the Partnership to visit the school. Parents would fix a suitable date and let Mrs Craig know. Tots and Teens were Wednesday and Thursday 9.30 – 11.30 if parents wanted to see this.

Mrs Craig thanked Tim Holden for all his help and support to the School, and presented him with a gift on behalf of the staff. Tim asked that his thanks be passed on to teaching staff and front desk staff.

A presentation was also made from the parent members.

7. Staff Members Report

Sarah Ingham reported that she had had a meeting with Keith Brown in the Anti Social Behaviour Unit on parking and car use on campus. Car numbers of obstructive vehicles to be reported to the Anti Social Behaviour Unit. On the suggestion of a boom at the front gate, Mrs Craig will revisit.

8. Parents Matters

None.

9. Correspondence

Correspondence was distributed by the Clerk.

10. AOCB

Exam leave for 2012 would be revisited.

Date of Next Meetings:

5 October and Wednesday 30 November 2011; 11 January, 8 February, 7 March, 2 May and 30 May 2012.

Signed: _____ (Chairperson) Date: 5 October 2011

Signed _____ (Clerk) Date 5 October 2011

| Action Points | Who | When |
|------------------------------------|-----|---------------------|
| Date to be fixed for Parents visit | All | For October meeting |