

BISHOPBRIGGS ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL



MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8 JANUARY 2019

Present: Gordon Mouldsdale (GM); David Phillips (DP); Allison Lunan (AL); Linda Bowers (LB); Jane McGrory (JM); Alison Keith (AK); Cllr Gordan Low (GL); Carol Robertson (CL); Karen Thomas (KT)

Apologies: Provost Alan Brown (AB); Jonathan Campbell (JC), Joanne Lynas (JL), Brigitte Schillmeier (BS); Natalie Storey (NS); Robert Johnston (RJ); Cllr Gary Pews (GP); David Williams (DW); Cllr Alan Moir (AM); Marion McAlister (MM)

1 WELCOME

DP welcomed everyone to the meeting. In the absence of JL, Clerk to the Parent Council, KT took the minutes of the meeting.

2 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Minutes of 6 November 2018 were approved electronically before the meeting. There were no matters arising. I. Donaghey, DHT is currently on Paternity Leave and will discuss Parental Engagement at the next Parent Council meeting.

3 HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

November/December 2018 Activities

Business Breakfast – This was held at the end of November 2018 and was very successful. Feedback from pupils, parents and visitors was very positive and we will continue to hold the Business Breakfast in future years.

Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch – This was held in December 2018 and over 200 members of the local community attended. Senior pupils and catering staff did a fantastic job and it was an extremely enjoyable event.

Christmas Ceilidhs – Over 160 pupils from our four cluster primary schools attended the P7 Ceilidh and the S1/S2 Ceilidh was also very well attended. A record 235 pupils attended the Senior Ceilidh. There were around 100 pupils at the S3/S4 Ceilidh. All four Ceilidhs were very enjoyable. GM thanked PE staff for the organisation and running of the Ceilidhs.

Sense Scotland Christmas Concert – Once again, our choir gave a fantastic performance at the concert held at Glasgow City Chambers.

Christmas Concert – Our annual Christmas Concert was held at the end of term. Once again it was a sell out and a great evening's entertainment. GM thanked all staff who helped make this such a success.

January 2019 and Beyond

Compilation of S4 Prelim Results – All S4 Prelim results have been marked and results collated. I. Donaghey and Principal Teachers have undertaken detailed analysis of results. The results are very positive. The next few months are crucial and staff will be supporting pupils as they make the final push towards the SQA exams.

S4 Parents' Meeting, Monday 14th January 2019 – This is a crucial step in supporting pupils as they prepare for their exams. SMT is currently trying to identify parents who may not attend in order to contact them and encourage them to attend. There is usually a 90% - 94% attendance at Parents' Meetings which is very high.

S5/S6 Prelims – These commence on Monday 14th January 2019. Phase 1 of Supported Study finishes this week before the Prelims. The second phase of Supported Study will begin in early March 2019.

Easter Revision – GM will be discussing this with staff in the near future. It is hoped a similar programme to previous years will run. AK asked if this will run over both weeks. GM confirmed Easter Revision will run for four days each week. CR asked if pupils attend revision for most of their subjects. GM stated that attendance at Easter Revision classes is always high and many pupils do attend classes in all their subjects where possible. Pupils sign up for two, three-hour morning or afternoon slots in each subject. There is tremendous commitment from staff to provide such a wide programme of classes.

Upcoming Parents' Information Evenings – Two Curricular Pathways Information Evenings will be held for parents and pupils in S2 and S4/S5. These will provide parents with information on the subject option choice process. Pupils make key decisions in S2, S4 and S5 which impact on future career choices. AK asked when the S4/S5 Option Choice process is undertaken. GM replied that this will take place in February 2019. A few pupils make changes to subject choices later in the term and some will also make changes after the SQA exam results in August 2019. GM noted that teachers, PSE staff and SMT devote considerable time to ensuring pupils make the correct choices which leads to fewer changes and greater success. Each year we try to improve and refine the process leading to fewer changes each year. Option Choice forms are now available on the school website.

4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

DP raised concern regarding access to toilets during the school day and the lack of soap in the toilets. GM replied that there are three sets of pupil toilets in the Social Space. Occasionally one set is locked after cleaning – this is usually due to cleaning staff shortages. However, there are always more than adequate facilities for pupils to use. GM will look in to the issue with lack of soap.

AK asked when the school show will take place. The show runs from Tuesday 11th to Thursday 13th June 2019. This is followed by the Prom on Friday 14th June 2019.

DP closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2019 AT 7.00 PM