



DALZIEL HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at 7.00 pm on Thursday 3rd September 2015

in the School Conference Room

Present:	Mr Robert Birch	-	Head Teacher
	Mrs Deborah King	-	Chairperson
	Mrs Irene McKenna	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Irene McAlpine	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Margery Lilly	-	Parent Member
	Mr Simon Jessney	-	Parent Member
	Mr David Forson	-	Parent Member
	Mrs Fiona Conboy	-	Staff Member
	Mrs Jennifer DiMambro	-	Staff Member

1 APOLOGIES

All present. New House Captains pending.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record of events.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

No issues arising from previous minutes.

4 RECTOR'S REPORT

4.1 Staffing

We are now fully staffed in all subject areas but this includes a number of temporary staff. An advert for PT Social Subjects to go ahead and await confirmation of advert for Teacher of Music and Teacher of Computing.

New Staff –August 2015

Fern Agnew	Modern Studies	Temporary Teacher
Douglas Bell	Computing	Temporary Teacher
Rosie Campbell	PE	Permanent Teacher
Sean Chan	Mathematics	Temporary Teacher
Frances Smith	Modern Languages	Maternity Cover
Katie Martin	English	Probationer
Mary McCrae	Home Economics	Temporary Teacher
Jacqueline McDade	Drama	Probationer
Ann McDermott	HID	Permanent Teacher
Alan Moir	Biology	Permanent Teacher
Maria SantaMaria	Chemistry	Temporary Teacher
Jenny Sear	History	Probationer

4.2 SQA Results

Once again an overall excellent set of results for the school. Detailed information was issued to the Parent Council and a discussion took place. It was acknowledged the demands on S4 last year and taking this into considerations 61% of S4 passed 5 or more National 5.

4.3 End of Term Arrangements

The Choral Shield was a huge success again this year and thanks were given for the tremendous effort all round that makes this possible.

A discussion took place on whether the Prize Giving ceremony held in the evening in St Mary's Parish Church is too long, as some parents comments suggest. The majority of Parent Council agreed that the service as it is very good and should stay as it is. The Music performance and Sports Awards are both enjoyable and important and wouldn't like to remove any part of the ceremony. However if SMT come up with suggestions it would be discussed again in the future.

4.4 School Show

Preparations are well under way for this year's performance on Monday 5th to Thursday 8th October of Little Shop of Horrors. Dundas Estates, Barons Gate, Motherwell is once again sponsors of the event.

4.5 Award

The Science Team won a UK national award at Education Business Awards. Winning STEM award (Science Technology Engineering Maths).

More detailed information was discussed which within the head teachers report including:-

Arkwright Scholarships - two S5 pupils have been selected for scholarship

Positive destinations for all pupils continues to be a priority for the school, with Youth Apprenticeships and the use of Pathways.

4.6 PE Policy

PE Policy on participation in lessons as outlined by Mr Stewart to the Parent Council during meeting on May 14th is now in place. S1 are now wearing the PE uniform (school top).

4.7 NLC Funding

NLC arranged a survey of the whole school building and as a result of this the Alarm System will be replaced and the Security System will be upgraded.

The school was deemed as not requiring further renovations/alteration. During a meeting at HQ the Head Teacher had the opportunity to discuss additional requirements with James McKinstry.

The Parent Council response to this is to follow up with a letter to James McKinstry. This will be a similar request for the Home Economics department refurbishment as per the last letter to Andrew Sutherland and will be within a 2-3 week period of this meeting.

4.8 Talent Show

Last year it was reported that not enough pupils auditioned and so this year David Gallagher (Geography teacher) intends to re-invent and hopefully raise the profile this year.

4.9 National Testing

The Scottish Government are to re-introduce National Testing on Primary P1, P3, P7 and Secondary S3. The current S3 will sit National Test.

A discussion took place on Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation and how the government intend to raise attainment for pupils from less affluent families identified by postcodes.

Additional funding will be available for schools and numerous schools within NLC have been identified. The aim is to improve Literacy, Numeracy, and Health & Wellbeing.

4.10 NLC School Day

After the implementation of the 33 period week. NLC is now looking at standardising all Secondary Schools and may impose a standard school day. This will allow all NLC Secondary Schools to work together with greater commonality of timetables.

4.11 Budget cuts

NLC Financial Savings Plan to go to public consultation during October. We know that teaching staff figures have to remain the same. Learning & Leisure to save £25million. Difficult cuts are due.

4.12 School Elections

Congratulations to School Captain Susan Ireland and to School Vice-Captain Rosalyn Jessney. The House elections will take place tomorrow and will be invited to join the Parent Council as last year.

5 TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no change to report.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

Jim Beers – National Parent Conference to be held 14th November 2015 more information to follow.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

New Advanced Higher material to be written this year. With 3 Biology teachers is has not been possible to offer Advanced Higher this year. However it is hopeful that it will resume 2016.

Dalziel High School with soon have their own Pipers with ten pupils to be tutored within the school.

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 1st October 2015.