

DALZIEL HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 2ND November at 7.00pm

in the School conference Room

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| Present: | David Forson | - | Chair |
| | Mr Robert Birch | - | Head Teacher |
| | Mrs Jennifer Di Mambro | - | Deputy Head Teacher |
| | Mrs Margery Lilly | - | Parent Member |
| | Mrs Irene McAlpine | - | Parent Member |
| | Mr Simon Jessney | - | Parent Member |
| | Mrs Joyce Gass | - | Parent Member |
| | Mr Graeme Murray | - | Parent Member |
| | Karen Munro | - | Parent Member |
| | Margo Thomson | - | Parent Member |

1 APOLOGIES and INTRODUCTIONS – Apologies from Deborah King, Irene McAlpine and Fiona Conboy. David introduced himself as chair of the parent council and introduced the 2 new members to the council and other members gave short introductions.

2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 5th October, 2017, the AGM, were proposed by Graeme Murray and seconded by David Forson and were accepted as a true and accurate record of events.

3 RECTOR'S REPORT - Robert Birch updated the Parent Council on the following points:

3.1 Staffing – Yvonne Savage has now been appointed as DHT Hearing Impaired/Support for Learning (0.4 FTE). Principal Teacher of Pupil Support will now be advertised. Acting Principal Teacher Drama, Jennifer Bradshaw, has now been appointed Principal Teacher Drama, (0.2 FTE). A vacancy for Teacher of the Deaf has been advertised, but there have been no applications.

3.2 Refurbishment of Home Economics Department – Robert Birch advised that the refurbishment of the Home Economics Department is to go ahead and he is awaiting a phone call from Ian Smith to arrange a meeting to discuss.

3.3 Pupil Council – The pupils have chosen the charities that they wish to support this year will Children in Need and Christmas Jumper Day. R. Birch explained that in addition to discussing matters in the school, a focus Learning Group within the Pupil Council is established. This group is encouraged to discuss learning that is taking place in classes.

3.4 Visit from Paul Johnston – Paul Johnston, the Director General of Education Communities and Justice for the Scottish Government visited the school on Monday the 30th October. He met with R. Birch, pupils and staff, with the focus being on closing the attainment gap. The meeting went extremely well and the school received very positive feedback.

3.5 Attainment Review Meeting – R. Birch explained that this meeting will take place on Monday the 6th of November with North Lanarkshire Council. A team from the council will review statistics relating to attainment in the school, which are excellent. The statistics also detail school exclusions.

3.6 School Show – The school show took place in October and was again very successful.

3.7 Christmas Arrangements – The Christmas service will take place on Thursday 21st December and dates for the Christmas ceilidhs will be issued shortly. A party for the pupils at Fir Park School will be organised as in previous years by the pupils in S6.

3.8 Remembrance Day Service – The annual Remembrance Day Service will take place in the school Assembly hall at 2.00pm on Sunday the 12th November.

3.9 Public Speaking Competition – the annual House Public speaking competition will take place on Tuesday 7th November in the school Assembly Hall.

4 Building Repair Update – Urgent repairs from the initial short term list have been done. Further to the walk round of the school the outstanding issues are;

- a) The refurbishment of the HE Department, promised this FY.
- b) Future investment in Dalziel High School, in view of recent announcements in the media of financial investments in other schools in NL.

It was agreed that S. Jessney will contact Paul Kelly to request a meeting with the PC. Also, letters will be sent to all local councillors inviting them to attend a walk round of the school. R. Birch is awaiting a phone call from Ian Smith, see (3.2).

5 School Improvement Plan – Helpful for parent council members to be involved at the early stage. DHTs will contact relevant members in due course.

6 Reporting to Parents – The model of 4 reports per year has now been implemented. This system of reporting will be reviewed at the end of the year. J. Di Mambro explained that tracking is more vigorous and pupil progress can be easily identified. Pupil Support can be involved at an earlier stage if pupils are not performing.

7 Transition P7-S1 R. Birch explained transition process, and the enhanced involvement from Maths and English in the feeder primaries. Parents will be asked their point of view in due course.

8 PTA/PTC – D. Forson explained the purpose of each for new PC members. He agreed to contact the chair of the PTA to advise present workings of the PC and to ascertain if any collaborative involvement would be beneficial.

9 Upcoming Training- If members of the PC wish to attend any of the training sessions, they should contact D. Forson, so that he can register interest.

10 Correspondence – None

11 No items to report from the treasurer.

12 AOB – The possibility of braiding all 6th years was brought up. However it was discussed that senior pupils in the school have different ties to show their seniority in the school.

Future meeting dates were arranged; 7th December, 1st March, 3rd May, and 7th June.

D. Forson thanked everyone for attending and brought the meeting to a close.