

DOUGLAS-EWART HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting Held Monday 18th June 2018

Present: H McColm (Chair), J Sloan (Vice-Chair), C Jess (Secretary/Treasurer), C Adams, M Byrne, D Chang, J Cochrane, R Christie, Cllr Hagmann, F Huxtable, K Hyslop, A McClymont, K McCormick, F McElrea, M McGuire, S McGuire, H Smith & S Sneddon.

In attendance: A Cowie & C Garrity.

Apologies: Cllr Inglis, Cllr McColm, L Fisher, L McQuat & C Nimmo-Scott.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of meeting held 26th April approved by S. Sneddon & R. Christie.

Matters Arising:

- **Transport:** H McColm read through D Kirkpatrick's log. This showed 2 dates where only 2 buses arrived and two breakdowns. A number of parents were aware of further breakdowns and instances where buses have been late which had not been logged. A Cowie stated that S Dodds also believed there had been more issues than the report suggested. Parents to email details to H McC to be forwarded to D Kirkpatrick.
- **For Parents by Parents:** H McC has updated prior to her promoting the website at recent P7 Transition Family Night. Members to check and advise if any updates or changes needed.
- **Advert for HT Post:** Discussed and agreed. Suggestion made to advertise in Times Education Supplement. CG to speak to Mr Miller about getting pupils to create video to be posted online.

Correspondence:

- Susan Moffat has resigned from the Parent Council
- Information cascaded regarding Parental Involvement meeting
- Letter re fundraising account passed to C Garrity
- C Jess has resigned as both Secretary & Treasurer. K Hyslop will fill Treasurer's position until AGM. No-one volunteered for role of Secretary so it was agreed that members would take turns taking minutes until someone can be found to take this on.

Statement of Account – Treasurer: Balance of account is £607.70.

Fundraising: There will be a hamper raffle at junior prize-giving ceremony. H McC thanked C Garrity & C Nimmo-Scott for organising this.

Head Teacher's Report/Q&A:

- **Staffing:** Languages Teacher post to be advertised as Mr Paterson has secured a new job. Concerns around Higher Spanish if replacement cannot be found.
- **Annie:** It was noted that the 1st show in the new facility had been a success.
- **Duke of Edinburgh:** AC advised that an incident on the recent expedition had been dealt with by police and enquiries are ongoing. Parents also felt that there had been no preparation for the expedition. There were no meetings prior to, or following the trip and families had less than 1 week to prepare. Pupils have not yet received a log book and have not started their volunteering. AC to speak to Youth Work Services. He suggested that more staff could be bought in using PEF money.
- **Options:** AC was pleased to report that no child had been denied an option this year.
- **S6 letter:** It was stated that some pupils had been upset by the letter that was issued to S6 pupils. AC advised that the school was asking pupils to commit to 16 periods per week and that this

included volunteering, work experience or study periods and did not necessarily have to be in the classroom. It was suggested that this could be communicate more clearly. H McC to put in For Parents by Parents section on website.

- Uniform: Discussed briefly. Dress code to be re-enforced. To be raised with new HT once position filled.
- **Instrumental Instruction Services:** Under review again. Cllr Hagmann has requested that PCs be included in discussions.
- **Work Experience:** It was noted that pupils had enjoyed very positive work experience placements.
- **Developing Young Workforce:** 2 posts to be advertised. (1 each for junior and senior phases)
- **Daily Bulletin:** A request was made for the termly calendar to be shown on Daily Bulletin screen at all times.

Councillor's Report:

- **HT/DHT Interview Structure Review:** This was deferred at last meeting as plans were confusing to Councillors.
- **School Uniform Allowance:** Increased to £100. Information to be fed back to parents.
- **Public Engagement Session:** Cllr Hagmann encouraged attendance at meeting regarding flood defences and replacement of Sparling bridge.
- **Earmarked Areas for Development:** Agreed at last Council meeting. Cllr Hagmann clarified that planning permission would still be required and that there were no plans to build on this land in the foreseeable future.

A.O.C.B: It was noted that DEHS pupils involved in P7 transition had been excellent and represented the school well and with confidence.

Meeting Closed 8:30pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 10th September 2018, 7pm