



MINUTES

Bearsden Academy Parent Council - Meeting 68

Held on 7th March 2017 at Bearsden Academy

Attendees - Alan Howie (Chair), George Cooper (Head Teacher), Sally-Anne Eagers, Mags Paterson, Ruth Whittaker, Shirley Stuart, Helen Morton, Karen Kane (Vice Chair) and Tara White (Clerk).

Welcome & Apologies

Mr Howie welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from Councillor Shergill and Louise Franklin.

Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of the last meeting held on February 7th 2016 were approved.

Matters Arising

Mags queried if the attainment budget has been officially confirmed and if there were any ideas as to how this would be spent. Mr Cooper has had no official letter from the Scottish Government however EDC have been informed. Mr Cooper has not made any decisions on how the money will be spent as yet but it will be given careful consideration and woven into suggestions already made for the schools improvement. Mr Cooper will keep the PC updated and may look for their input into discussions around this subject in the future.

Mags spoke about the email which members received from the National Parent Forum who were looking for views on additional support needs. There was a very quick turnaround and no time for the PC as a group to garner views but Mags took the time to respond. It is unclear whether Mags views were received by the NPF but they weren't included in the submission to the Education and Skills Committee, it appears that they were sent to EDC's NPF group who Mags has contacted to ascertain what happened to them. The group agreed that they should know where their feedback is going and what it will be used for.

Head Teacher's Report

Mr Cooper's report is attached. This year the S5/S6 Parent Evening took place over two evenings instead of one and there has been very positive feedback about this so far. Staff and parents will be surveyed on all the parents evenings and the booking form and Mr Cooper has a meeting next week with the Working Time Agreement Committee where they will build on that feedback. Mr Cooper encourages anyone asked to provide their views to please do so, all comments are gratefully received.

Mr Cooper is really pleased that there are five weeks of targeted supported study and open supported study this year and there is a list available on the website with full details. There will hopefully be three days of Easter study available over the holidays also.

Mr Cooper thanked Karen and Louise for coming along for a discussion with Michael Healy on wider achievement. Karen said that Mr Healy had found their input valuable. Mr Cooper said that Mr Healy was very positive following the meeting and

was now tying it in with speaking to the young people and further updates will follow.

Mr Cooper advised that Ruth Higgins is the new Principal Teacher of maths, Mr Cooper is delighted to have Ruth joining the team and wished Chris Morris the best in his new post. Staffing is very stable and there are no big issues with all absences covered.

The school's Twitter feed is hugely busy right across the school with lots of events and achievements.

Mags recently attended the S2 parents evening which she said was really excellent. Mags also found the booking system great and was very pleased to hear about the RMPS religion and belief award which she feels is very positive.

Review of Agenda Topics- Alan Howie

Alan Howie distributed a list of suggested agenda topics which were submitted by himself and other members with the intention being that each year two or three topics will be focused on. The aim is to give the meetings some added purpose. The group discussed in some detail the various agenda items. It was agreed that Sports Inclusion would be featured at a future meeting and that Louise Kennedy would come along and address the group and that School Trips would also be discussed in more detail. Some of the other topics will be looked into further and any other ideas or suggestions should be forwarded on for consideration at a future meeting.

AOCB

There was no AOCB

Mr Howie thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Next meeting - Tuesday 2nd May 2017 at 7.00 pm