

Balerno High School Parent Council Meeting

Monday 8th November 7.30-9.00p.m.

Attending:

F. Barkey	Chair
R. McKenzie	Head Teacher / Advisor to Parent Council
J Craig	Parent Member
M. Milne	Parent Member (Community Council)
S McLeod	Parent Member
S. Stride	Staff Member
J. Gladstone	Staff Member
K. Amos	Head Girl
I. McLeod	Head Boy

In Attendance:

D. Craigie	CCWP Rep Dean Park Primary School PC
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Apologies:

A. Paisley	Councillor
R. Henderson	Councillor
K. Cairns	Parent Member
C. Atkins	Parent Member
K. McKeown	Parent Member
C. Merchant	Parent Member
L. Carrie	Treasurer
T Aitchison	Vice Chair

Francis welcomed Jim Gladstone (Depute S1) and Susan Stride (PT Maths) to their parent Council Meeting

1. **Previous Minutes**

These were approved

2. **Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**

Young Member for BCC - I McLeod and K Amos still working on this and possibility a student from the Pupil Parliament or S5 - Ian or Kate to contact M Milne if any questions from fellow students about the work of the BCC.

PIPER - Mike Ferrigan is working with V McKay and assemblies have been held in school.

S1 Residential - This was a successful week and only four pupils did not attend.

The presentation by H Meek and P Tildesley will be at the next PC meeting.

3. **School Report - see attached**

4. **Senior School Report**

Simpson Special Care Baby Unit is the chosen charity. Non uniform day raised £800.00. The 6th year residential was very successful and pupils got to know

one another which will help in working as a year group.

A party of 56 pupils took part in an international debating forum in Stuttgart and stayed with host families.

A party of Adv Higher English pupils enjoyed a weekend trip to Dublin to study the works of James Joyce the Irish poet.

Wednesday 17th November is the date for the Maleny Variety Show when pupils get to showcase their talents.

5. Budget Cuts and CCWP

Focus groups have been set up by CEC and documentation circulated of possible cuts which at present are under consultation with the wider community. The final report from CEC is not expected until after the next meeting on the 15th of December with PC Chairs.

F Barkey has attended recent meetings with CCWP, PC Chairs and the Council Education hierarchy.

The purpose of recent meetings is for the wider education community to be given the opportunity to advise on priorities for forthcoming cuts which will provide the Council guidance and comfort when difficult decisions have to be made.

The budget decisions by Council will also rely on the Scottish Government forthcoming budget allocation

D Craigie reported that he was part of the Focus Group and reported that as well as cuts ways to generate revenue was also being looked at.

6. Curriculum for Excellence

J Gladstone to give an update at future Parent Council Meeting. It was noted that GLOW was a useful tool, but it was a "clunky" system which requires simplification. P Lennon from BHS has been seconded to this project.

7. PTA

Charitable status is in place with four trustees, 15 members and 4 teachers and the main feeder schools represented. The meetings of the PTA are now being held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The group are now looking at applying for lottery funding etc in view of the charitable status. Graham Bruce did raise enough money to purchase one smart board. A presentation is to be arranged. R McKenzie intimated that the school may have different options for the money raised, Graham Bruce and Karen Scott are to be consulted.

8. Community Council Report

M Milne stated that a member of the public at the last BCC meeting had commented about the litter. R McKenzie said that school assemblies cover litter and it has been an ongoing problem. It was also discussed whether it should be the shop keepers responsibility in helping with the litter. M Milne asked if the school were taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival being organised for the second weekend in December and also that BCC were considering asking the school if they would help in designing a BCC logo. R McKenzie thought the Art Department would possibly help and M Milne to ask the Community Council to write to the school with further information.

9. ECO

£1000 received from PIPER - discussion took place regarding PIPER and BVT overlapping environmental projects, however it was agreed the two

organisations would need work this out between them.
C Atkins to review what the monies can be best spent on.

10. P C Website

C Atkins and S McLeod working on this

11. AOB

F Barkey to speak to L Carrie about recovering the money we save by not having a clerk.

Possible ideas for using money:

Noticeboards in concourse

New Plasma screen in concourse

F Barkey thank those attending and closed the meeting

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 17th January, 2011