

## Balerno High School Parent Council Meeting

16<sup>th</sup> May 2011

7.30-9.00p.m.

Attending:	F Barkey	Chair
	C Atkins	Parent Member
	S Stride	Staff Member
	S McLeod	Parent Member
	K McKeown	Parent Member
In attendance:	R Mackenzie	Head Teacher/Advisor to Parent Council
	R Henderson	Councillor (part of meeting)
	M Milne	Community Council
Apologies	L Carrie	Treasurer
	J Gladstone	Staff Member
	D Craigie	
	Councillor Paisley	
	Councillor Cairns	

### 1. Previous minutes

These were approved.

### 2. School Report - separate report provided.

Points raised from Report - 2.4m cost cutting this financial year, 3.1m over two years both to be discussed at next CCWP meeting.

Balerno pupils did not go to Beijing due to the costs but were looking forward to the Beijing pupils coming to Balerno and tickets for the tattoo had been purchased.

S6 chats it was noted that a greater number this year are not going to University and are either going on to gain employment or gap years.

Balerno theme week is again being promoted as part of the cross curricular work within CfE and most departments are involved.

It was noted that the Leavers Ceremony was scheduled for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June and the school will close at lunchtime.

Tickets for Mr McKenzie's leaving do are available from Susan Donald in the school office.

Mr McKenzie gave an overview of the budget cuts and how this was going to affect staffing in Balerno. Possible change to current house structure is being considered which could lead to knock on effect for

the S1 residential programme. No decision as yet has been taken on janitorial support cuts, however the Janitorial central hub options appears to have been dismissed.

Bursar/Senior Clerical Assistant, which is the current BHS module, is envisaged as being the preferred option for all schools.

A briefing to all staff will be held on the forthcoming in-service day, discussion about the Council VERA option, union strike action and conservation of salaries.

Recruitment process for post of head teacher will commence shortly, FB and LC will represent the Parent Council in the interview stage and the role will be discussed at the next PC meeting.

### **3. Senior School Report**

Not present/no report.

### **4. CCWP**

No formal report.

### **5. PSA**

No formal report.

### **6. Community Council**

The BCC were pleased that BHS Art Dept were going to run a competition to design a logo for the Council.

The matter of the school buses parking outside the school for longer and with engines running had been referred to the Contractors.

The Community Council are still looking for a school pupil to become member of Community Council.

### **7. Councillors**

R Henderson had just been to a Parent Council Meeting at Dean Park PS where discussion about road safety on Mansfield Road/Bavelaw Road. There was insufficient data for funding patrols but warning signs had been suggested. BHS Parent Council agreed to support any type of crossing to help with safety.

### **8. Eco-Sustainability**

C Atkins had tried to contact V McKay but had no response.

### **9. PC Web site -**

Sue McLeod gave a very impressive presentation on the work she had carried out on the website. Attached is documentation explaining the current position and members of the Parent Council were asked to look at the website and test run according to Sue's instructions.

Thanks was extended to Sue for all her hard work.

### **10. Clerk Fees Recovery - Liz Carrie had dealt with this.**

### **11. AOB**

S1 intake meeting on the 23 June is a prime opportunity to secure S1 parent e-mails and three/four volunteers are required- FB will circulate with further information and provide prepared schedules on the night.

The Council were pleased to learn that Edinburgh Council have agreed to fund the drainage in the playing fields.

V McKay will make a presentation at the next meeting with regard to the new proposed CC Letting Structure and standardising of costs.

Kirsty raised concern about the school transport supplied by "Hamiltons" which covers the farm route and on many occasions the bus is late and pupils are left standing on a road with no pavement. Kirsty had been in contact with the West Lothian Council Department who deal with the bus contracts.

**Date of next meeting - Monday 6 June 2011 7:30 pm**