

DALBEATTIE HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

MEETING OF 24TH NOVEMBER 2009

Present:- Lyn Burgess (Chairperson), Susan McLellan (Vice Chair), Ashley Little (Clerk), Donald Wallace (Headteacher), Marion Gourley, Rebecca Kellett and Councillor Davie Stitt.

1. **Welcome:** - Lyn opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
2. **Apologies:** - Councillor Ian Blake, Andrea Irving, Stuart McCulloch and Danielle Burgess (Pupil Council).
3. **Matters Arising:** - No matters arising from previous minutes of 8th September 2009.

Approved – Susan McLellan

Seconded – Marion Gourley

4. **Correspondence:** -
 1. D&G Council requiring the return of the Treasurers Report. This has to be done in order for the Parent Council to receive funding for the following year. This has now been completed.
 2. D&G Council required a copy of the up to date Parent Council Membership. This has been submitted.
 3. SPTC receipt for annual membership and insurance.
 4. HMI Learning Together. Leaflets and a d.v.d were sent. It is intended to support the process of turning the aspirations of Curriculum for Excellence into reality. It was suggested that the d.v.d could be shown at the next Parent Council meeting.
 5. Skills for life and work document. Aimed at all who support young people in developing skills for learning, life and work.
 6. Backchat September '09. Came as a paper copy again, not electronically. Unfortunately there is inaccurate information in the copy regarding the impact of the new licensing law. An update is being forwarded.
 7. School Uniforms. Leaflets from Border Embroideries & Leonard Hudson which show designs and clothes that can be used as school uniforms. This is to be passed to the Social and Fundraising Group.

8. Leaflet from MENO regarding yearbooks etc. To be passed to the Pupil Council.
9. Fone Club. They are recycling old mobile phones from schools. Last year they recycled 24,000 phones. The school receives £2.50 for each phone they recycle. This information was passed to the Social and Fundraising group.
10. Murder Mystery Players. Information on a fundraising idea for a Murder Mystery Night. The pack costs £60 and the Murder Mystery Night can raise up to £1000. This information was passed to the Social and Fundraising Group.
11. Outstanding School sent information on A4 size folders made from recycled materials displaying the School's logo on them. The price of these start from £1.50, depending on how many the School would order.
12. RSNO. Under 16's go free. Passed to Miss Agnew.

5. **Treasurers report:**

Ian Clark was unable to attend the meeting. It had been previously agreed to donate £1000 to the School. This has been done now and the School is just waiting on the money coming back in.

6. **Update from Sub Groups:**

International links:

This is discussed in the Headteachers report.

Social and Fundraising:

The recent Craft Fair raised £258. The event was quieter than last year, possibly due to an article in the Galloway News that week regarding the reports of Swine Flu and also due to the really bad weather. On behalf of the Sub Group, they would like to thank the Parent Council for their help before and during the event. They would also like to thank all the stall holders from the night. Lyn took the opportunity at this point to say thank you to the Social and Fundraising Group for all their commitment. The sub Group have ideas for future fundraisers including a fashion show where the clothes have all been bought on a budget from charity shops. The Sub Group would also welcome any other fundraising ideas.

The Group would like to thank Mr Mein, Ross Kennedy for the music and Susie Clark and Emma Lane who were the Pianists.

7. **Headteachers Report:**

This is Mr Wallace's last meeting before his retirement. Mr Wallace said thank you to all for their continuing support over the past years and a thank you to the community for their support also.

- S1 residential 6&7/10/09.
- Business Education/Product Design excursion 8&9/10/09.
- D of E new Bronze group meeting 03/11/09.
- Hockey, Senior Dr Turners Tournament, 12/11/09. The Girls won!
- Interviews for post of Headteacher, 12/11/09. Mrs S Bain, who was Deputy Head of Lockerbie Academy for 16 years is the preferred candidate for the post and will start on Jan 6th 2010.
- Craft Fair 13/11/09.
- S2/S3 Parent Evenings 12 & 19/11/09.
- Scottish Youth Parliament Elections 17/11/09. This was held in Dumfries. Good idea to encourage the population to vote.
- P7 Open Evening 23/11/09. Good turnout and a good number of staff and pupils came to help out as well. Teachers are only contracted to do 5 Parent Evenings per year, this is a 6th Evening so thanks to all Teachers who gave up their evening and chose to come.
- **COMING UP:**
- Rugby International Scotland v Argentina, 28/11/09. There are 10 adults and 18 Pupils going to the match.
- **International Links:** Mr Mein has been in contact with Malawi to see about an Exchange in the future and a possible visit from the Headteacher.
- Mrs Smith has been in contact with Germany re the next exchange in 2010.
- The School received an E-mail from China. 2 staff members, the Headteacher and an English Teacher, from a School in Chongqing, PR China, hope to visit Dalbeattie High School week commencing 08/12/09. A suitable programme will be arranged.
- School production, 9, 10 & 11/12/09.
- Visit from Anne Campbell, Stewartry Education Officer 15/12/09, she is coming to see Mrs Smith and Mr Bremner.
- Junior and Senior dances 16 & 17/12/09.
- End of term 18/12/09.

8. **Pupil Council Report:**

Due to other responsibilities (School Production) the Pupil Council could not attend the meeting.

9. **School Estate:**

There have been no further developments regarding School Estate since the last meeting. Dalbeattie has got the go ahead for a new Secondary School which will hopefully be ready before 2014. D&G Council still have £6 million to find to complete the funding. An announcement from the Scottish Government is to be made next week on what is to happen with the Primary School.

10. **Proposed Budget Cuts/ Council's Budget Consultation:**

An E-mail came from Colin Grant; there is a public meeting in Castle Douglas Primary School on Monday 30th November '09 from 6pm-8pm and another at Dumfries Academy on Wednesday 2nd December '09 from 6pm-8pm if anyone wants to go to discuss the proposed, across all services, including Education.

11. **Liaison with Parent Forum:**

This is still ongoing at for example, P7 and Consultation Evenings. Forthcoming dates to be confirmed. All minutes can be accessed on the Schools Website. There are still opportunities for other Parents/Carers to be involved.

12. **A.O.B:**

MV Awards. Christine from Volunteer Action has been in touch. Some pupils are already involved, working towards a recognised certificate. It was suggested that she liaise again with staff at school and could perhaps write an article about the MV Awards for the schools Newsdesk.

On behalf of the Parent Council, Lyn thanked Mr Wallace for all he and Mrs Wallace have contributed to the School and to the lives of the young people over the last 10 years.

13. **Date of Next Meeting:**

Tuesday 19th January 2010 @ 7pm.

Lyn said thanks to all who attended the meeting.