Hyndland Secondary School Parent Council

Minutes – Thursday 5th February 2015

Present: Parents - Gary Howorth (Chair), Alison Guthrie (Treasurer), Amanda Storey, Fiona Howorth, John Murray, Claire Murray, Rachel MacNeil, Dorothy Hooper, Jane Grove, Andrew Cruikshank; Staff – Maura McNeil (HT), Barry Mochin (DHT)

Apologies: Myrna O’Donnell

1. Minutes were approved – proposed Alison Guthrie, seconded Fiona Howorth.
2. Matters arising – none.

Action points from previous minute:

1 & 2 – done

3 – carried over

4, 5 & 6 – done

7 – carried over

8 – done

9 – Amanda Storey’s husband had emailed the local councillor but no response. The issue has also been raised with the Community Council as well.

1. Members of the Drama Club made a request for funding for their production of Little Shop of Horrors. The club is student run, bringing together junior and senior students and developing students individually. The funds would be used for props and costumes which would be kept for future use and for the rental of the plant puppet for the production. There are 9 production staff and 30-40 students involved in the production. They requested £250 which was agreed unanimously.
2. Headteacher Report –

S1 parents night rescheduled due to weather. Interim reports have been issued and pupils are well settled.

S2 starting course selection process. There have been knife awareness workshops and the Challenge Group is running.

S3 nothing to report.

S4 reports were issued after December assessments and now looking at results and taking actions as required. S6 have run study skills sessions. Parent and pupil focus groups have happened. Mentoring is also up and running.

S5/S6 is similar to above but behind due to assessment dates. Ceilidh being held that night and talent show arranged for the end of term.

S6 Graduation Ceremony being organised.

CERN trip is back and all is well with the ski trip. Duke of Edinburgh held taster days before Christmas. The school is working with a new provider who is more hands on.

Issues with the rugby pitch are being resolved.

Staffing – still a problem. S4-S6 get priority which means some younger classes suffer. The situation across the city is unsatisfactory.

1. New Highers are progressing well with PTs being more confident than in previous years. Old Highers still in Media, Maths, Photography and Computing. GCC is allowing schools and departments to decided what is best for their pupils. Staff are networking, receiving newsletters and generally feel supported.

With CfE the school hasn't changed structure really from the 2 + 2 + 2 previously. There was a general discussion and consensus to keep the structure as it is – the school is not under pressure to change.

MMcN is looking to have one exam diet post Christmas due to invigilator costs and displacement of PE classes. Impact on marking workload, tracking reports, parents nights, full reports, targeted parents evenings. MMcN circulated a proposed timetable for S4-S6 and there was general agreement that it is more efficient and makes more common sense.

1. Fundraising – 2 dates:

Shake, Rattle and Bowl Dance at Hyndland Bowling Club, Friday 27th Feb 8pm-12am

£6 per ticket, limited to 70 tickets.

Quiz Night at Hyndland Bowling Club, Friday 27th March 7.30-11pm

£5 per ticket with donations for buffet and raffle.

Any cheques to be made payable to Hyndland Secondary School Parent Council.

Action points: (1-3 carried over from 04.12.14 meeting)

1. To consider other potential funding – Alison Guthrie/John Greechan/All
2. Laura Forrester to be contacted re applications for funding – Myrna O’Donnell
3. To check with Cleveden High School how it's pitch can be open out with school hours – Helen Willis
4. Cheque to be issued for Drama Club – Alison Guthrie