

Madras College Parent Council Meeting
16 June 2009 @ 7.00 Kilrymont

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Heather Marriage, Jackie Himpson, Lynsey Seeley, Alex Slawin, Mary Scott, Andy Primmer, Eric Bowman, Jackie Morrissey (Minutes), Cllr Morrison, Ian Jones (Rector), Phil Williams (Chair).

Apologies:, Ron Caird, Muriel Gray, Bruce Sinclair, Geraldine Wooley, Sheena Watson, Andy Herd, Robin Waterstone, Gillian Bowman (resigned), Adam Alexander(resigned), Robin Dewar (resigned).
On behalf of the Parent Council the Chair thanked these members for their contribution.

Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Standards and Quality Report

It was noted that Ian Jones has provided a summary and is on the website.

Curriculum for Excellence Events

IJ reported that these are planned for next session and the PC will be informed of dates.

Parent and school communication

The presence of 2/3 senior pupils at future meetings was welcomed and agreed by the PC.

Website

The PC wished to thank Bruce Sinclair for his work on the PC site as it is developing well.

Parentmail

IJ reported that the S1 intake will be put onto the system in August/September 09. PC will continue with its support of Parentmail.

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

1.Rector's report

(i)Staffing – 3 current vacancies will be filled by August. David Brownley is the newly appointed Business Manager.

(ii)School maintenance - IJ reported that there will only be £10,000 available for essential H&S maintenance work next session, ie trip hazards. There will be no decorating funds available. The computer facilities will be moved up to the 3rd floor with LS locating to a suite of rooms on the 2nd floor.

(iii)PC Planning dates for next session are as follows:

16th September AGM followed by full PC meeting

4th November , 13th January 2010, 10th March, 12th May and 16th June.

Two additional dates for curriculum meetings 23/24th September or 30Sep/1 Oct to be confirmed.

2.Treasurer's report

Account balance £1700. Staff to be approached again by IJ for ideas as only pipe band had come forward with a request for funds. A display board of achievement across the curriculum was suggested and IJ will look into this. It was also suggested that the Dux Board at South St may be full and this will also be looked into.

3.New Madras progress and Local Development Group update

Andy Primmer reported back to the PC on last meeting. A list of 10 sites has been evaluated and 7 dropped on grounds of land being difficult to acquire and transportation issues with a possible 4 remaining for further exploration. These are:

1. Refurbishment of current Kilrymont site
2. Rebuild at current Kilrymont site
3. Langlands site
4. South Street refurbishment behind 1833 building

The PC had a discussion about some of the issues presented by these options including the Kilrymont site being too small to accommodate the new school at 9 sqm per pupil and playing fields.

The Strategic Brief Group will be meeting again on the 18th June to look again at these requirements. The PC expressed their disappointment that some of the other 7 options had possibly been dismissed too quickly. Further explanation would be welcomed.

4. Curriculum for Excellence

Timetable circulated by IJ. CforEx is on schedule for full curriculum up and running completely 2010-11 (for current P6's). IJ reported that he was pleased with current progress. PW suggested that PC members checkout www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentzone for more information about Cfor Ex and the number of subjects available.

5.Anti-bullying Policy

The ABP leaflet had been circulated to PC members at the last meeting PW requested feedback from PC. The PC broadly welcomed the policy and a discussion followed.. EB felt that the policy was not prescriptive enough with other PC members of the view that it should not be prescriptive at all, favouring a restorative approach depending on particular circumstances. All comments should be forwarded to Colin McKay. EB to mail comments to PW.

6. AOCB

- New S1 Parents Eve 18th June- Refreshments will be provided by PC
- Uniform- IJ restated his commitment to maintaining the school uniform.
- Backchat – SPTC Newsletter was circulated for all PC members.
- Plagiarism – IJ responded to a question on this by reporting on plans for an induction session for S5's on how to carry out appropriate research in partnership with St Andrews University.

7.DONM

16th September 7.00pm AGM followed by a full PC meeting