

Deans Community High School

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 12th February 2019

1. **Present:** Angela Ritchie, Jacqueline Baird, Janice Ritchie, Linda Irvine, Sandra Fallon, Anne Runciman, Pauline Allison, Caroline Bleach

2. **Apologies:** Caroline Bennett, Mark Cockburn

3. Meeting opened by Chair (AR). Guests welcomed and Parent council members introduced.

4. **Autism Ambassadors** – Six S6 student ambassadors attended meeting accompanied by Louise Walker and Michael Elliot.
 - There are 33 S6 students trained to be Autism Ambassadors. A Smartboard Presentation was given by the Autism Ambassadors. This included:
 - a) What is Autism
 - b) Autism in Deans
 - c) The vision of the ambassadors
 - d) Why our role is important
 - e) The role of the ambassador
 - f) What we are doing just now
 - g) Our legacy for 2019/20 autism ambassadors
 - Support can be given in the form of break and lunchtime buddying, within the classroom and at nurture club, supporting p7 students during enhanced transition.
 - The role of the ambassador was discussed. It is the intention of S6 ambassadors to recruit S5 student volunteers in this role to ease transition looking towards the start of the new school term for students on the Autistic Spectrum.
 - Student ambassadors and Teachers were thanked for attending the meeting and highlighting the valuable support they give to students in our School

5. LogoXpress Schoolwear

- Stephen Reynolds gave us details of the service they could provide.
- This company offers assistance in conjunction with High School staff to accommodate families having difficulty with uniform policy.
- Blazers are made from recycled blazer fabric, supplied by a carbon neutral company and are manufactured in accordance with Ethical Initiative code.
- Currently S6 students who take on house official or prefect roles are expected to wear blazers as compulsory.
- Discussion took place on the value of Students wearing blazers in Deans Community High School. Questions were addressed by Head teacher and Depute Headteacher. It was decided that the Parent Council would support the implementation of moving towards S1 to S6 students wearing School blazers. The Student Council are to be consulted on this matter.
- The wearing of Blazers is not compulsory but will be highly encouraged.
- Current S1 Students praised for their adherence to School Uniform Policy.

6. Evelyn Rogers – Careers Advisor

- Evelyn gave a detailed smartboard presentation of the services offered at DCHS with regards to information and guidance.
- Areas covered were: Self, Strengths, Horizons, Routes to Success, Pathways. Information can be accessed on Skills Development Scotland website.
- Evelyn has a base in the School and her advice can be accessed by students and parents regarding career and course choices, further and higher education, Scottish apprenticeships, Leaps, SAS funding, etc. She can offer assistance in many other areas such as preparing for an interview, for example.
- Mykidscareer.com is a new website. Advised to look at.

- Evelyn is available by appointment on Parents evening and has an open-door policy. Evelyn is available at certain times and days throughout the week.
- Further assistance and contact details: evelyn.rogers@sds.co.uk

7. Head Teachers Report

- Post for English/Maths Teacher advertised.
- Post for Art teacher is under discussion with Head of Service.
- Request for probationary Teachers has been made to Head of Service.

8. A.O.B

- Pauline Alison to invite Melissa Byrne (Family Support Worker) to join us at our next meeting.

Date of next Meeting

26.03.19