

**Largs Academy Parent Council**  
**Parent Council Meeting Minutes - Thursday 23rd February 2012**

**Present**

Patricia Bennett, Liz Blair, Mark Clarke, Angela Clements, John Corr, Tanya England, Arthur Jones Jean King, Margaret Telfer, Louise McCarron, Alex Gallagher, Alan Hill, Elizabeth Marshall Janet Bonn.

**1 Welcome**

**2. Apologies**

David Ramsay, Douglas Souter, Chris Barton, Grace Bowman

At the start of the meeting there was a demonstration by Stewart Reid of the proposed display for the new screen monitors. The possibilities of video or photo slideshows, internet presentations such as the news, the clock etc were demonstrated as set-ups to indicated that their use would not be a heavy time constraint.

**Agreed Agenda**

- Presentation from Louise on Grants
- Minutes of last meeting
- Matters arising
- Correspondence
- Head Teacher's report
- Treasurer's Report
- AOB
- Date of next Meeting

**3. Presentation by Louise.**

Louise informed us of the benefits of charity including more areas available for grant applications. There needs to be verification from North Ayrshire about Parent Council becoming a charity. Also need trustees, business plan accounts and list of what going to do

Since August there has been £32,000 grants applications for the PTA, School and Parent Council. This includes £8,000 awarded to PE department and a further £1,300 awarded for Hockey. Applications for St Mungo's project tackling sectarianism and for a vocational project for beauty therapy and hairdressing ( £10,000).

There is also an ongoing application for Science Labs to try to help make Largs Academy a centre for excellence for Science.

**4. Matters Arising**

Nothing to report.

## **5. Correspondence.**

Emails sent about early notification of NA Education Conference about Parental Involvement on 26/05/12 from 10-2.30 at St Matthews. This will include workshops and interactive activities.

John to circulate information about SPTC courses for Parent Councils.

## **6. Head Teacher's Report**

School role will be 1,076 with 183 going into S1 (18 places allowing for placing requests).

There was a letter from a parent about his dissatisfaction that a 67 year old maths teacher was teaching pupils English. Mr Jones explained that this highlighted the problems with getting supply teachers and that at the time no English teachers were available. There were no cover staff available and this option was the best fit.

The staff were stable with no compulsory redundancies envisaged.

Events. 4<sup>th</sup> year parents evening comments were circulated which were very enthusiastic.

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> march – Auction of Art

14<sup>th</sup> March Ayrshire league Football Cup Final at Dampark.

16<sup>th</sup> March Duke of Edinburgh presentations.

23<sup>rd</sup> March North Ayrshire Flagship Concert.

HMIE Social Subjects and Community development- very good report.

Option choices in full flow- a draft option sheet was circulated.

Discussions about curriculum for excellence examinations and variety of models.

The content of Highers is to change and become harder after a revamp.

There was also a discussion about the new screens and music system in the foyer to provide a welcoming environment.

## **7. Treasurer's Report**

Balance now £11,000 which included £8,000 grant

## **8 AOB.**

Angela reported back about attending conference for chairs of School Councils and discussions about Curriculum for Excellence.

**9. Date and Time of Next meeting: Thursday 26/04/12 at 7.00pm.**