

LEIGH TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY PARENTS COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 9th May 2011

Attendees:

Academy staff: Jane Rowlands, Megan West – Principal and Vice-Principal, Brunel

Sue Crocker - Business Manager

Parents:

BRUNEL: Chris Baker, Tracy Roblett, Mandy Kennedy, Linda King

CHAUCER: Deborah Quinn, Sharon Coles, Ann Burch, Glenda Philpott

DA VINCI: -

DARWIN: -

Apologies: - Mo Jensen, Jacqueline Ellis

Minutes

Welcome and apologies

Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and noted.

Business manager

Sue Crocker presented the new proposed design for the girls blouses. These were considered much better than the box shirt as they are fitted with short sleeves. It was agreed that these should be ordered. In relation to the re-cycled uniform shop, we asked that Sue could arrange flyers and promotion of the shop; the yr 6 intake letter needs to include information on this and on the swap day it may be possible to have Parent Council there. Sue said that Jazz is the main contact for uniform so the Parent Council ladies involved will contact her.

There is an issue with Arriva buses as the service around Joydens Wood has been changed to another company and the timetable changed. This means that it is impossible for students to arrive at the Academy on time, or get home at a reasonable time. Despite discussions with KCC nothing has been resolved. The post-16s have cost issues with transport too, as the Freedom pass is for under 16s only. There is information on the KCC consultation website, so please look at it and add your opinions. Sue left the meeting at 7.30pm

Principal's Q & A

Year 7s doing music relaxation in the morning before school - exercise to more modern music followed by a free cereal bar. This is a pilot at the moment.

Yr 11 revision is all on target. A parent requested that thanks be recorded to the Science staff for their commitment to getting Yr 11 coursework finished and staying so late.

The Leigh Trust is now officially progressing with work to allow Milestone School and York Road to become Academies as part of the Trust. This should be effective from September 11. There is scope for Milestone post-16s to join some courses with the Leigh.

The Yr 11/12 Business Challenge week starts on 11th July, this gives students real challenges in the business world.

Darwin has appointed a new Principal, Sharon Waterman, who will start in September.

The Merits system for yr7s was queried. Megan said that some teachers do forget to award them so she will remind them, but students should ask if they think they have been missed.

A parent brought the lunch issue to our attention again. There was nothing left again for last lunch last week. This is an ongoing problem, but Megan said that there is a new chef and the contract will be up for tender so this should be taken into account.

Sports days are w/c 13th June for the individual colleges, and the 'winners' whole Academy day is on 24th June, all in the park.

The Parents Council funds of around £1,400 are still held within the Academy accounts separately so suggestions are needed. One was that we supplied bottled water for the sports day - deemed a little difficult to manage. Another was the possibility of a covering for the area outside (over the benches). This could be considered; any other suggestions that would be of benefit to all students to be brought to next meeting please.

Lashings event has been promoted well this year, it is on Friday 1st July, Barbara Burkett has asked if additional help with the gate can be provided by Parent Council. Names to Chris Baker as soon as possible please.

New Head boy and girl have been chosen and are said to be excellent choice and very capable. Jane Rowlands and Megan West left the meeting at 8.25pm

Minutes of previous meeting - Agreed.

Parent Governor update – Nothing received from Dave Auty

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Any other business

Charity match funding from employers- David Watling would like to know of anyone who has this facility. He also has assured Chris that the School Fund issue for yr 8-13 parents who do not pay by direct debit/ standing order will be addressed this year.

Chris noted that the parent council will have new opportunities with next intake, and suggested that it may be helpful if those parents could be invited to our next meeting. This to be considered, or Parent Council reps to attend intake meeting day. Chirrs to contact Val Ludlow/ Gill Hickman to explore possibility.

Meeting closed 8.50pm

Date of next meeting Monday 27th June 2011.