

MINUTES OF PARENTS' FORUM

19 September 2005
No 10 Board Room at 7.30 pm

Present:

Mrs Rebecca Coleman	Mrs Helen Murphy
Mrs Gina Crowcroft	Mrs Teresa Sinclair
Ms Gill Hunter	Mrs Lana Smailes
Ms Veronica Larbey	Mrs Ann Bond
Mrs Michele Lock	Mr Steve Wade
Ms Faye Messervy	Mrs Caroline Walklin
Mrs Carole Aspden	Mr Roger Forster
Ms Julie Jones	

Staff Present: TRH; JDCP; MM; SM; DRH; ERP

		Action
1	Minutes of Last Meeting	
1.1	Homework Club	
	If numbers are sufficient will remain open until 6pm	JDCP/Librarian
1.2	Salads	
	Caterers are using fair price	
1.3	Life skills and 6 th Form	
	JEP setting up	JEP
1.4	University Evening	
	Well presented and professional. Parents' Forum congratulated Lara Pechar	TRH
2	Matters Arising	
	None	
3	School Development Plan	
3.1	TRH explained that the old Development Plan had been	

	Action
<p>successfully completed. The new SDP takes for granted that we are the best school of our kind in the area. We will seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend our opportunities to participate in national events e.g. sport , music etc • Continue to serve our traditional academic catchment • Serve the community in which we live <p>TRH invited parents to comment and suggest ideas to be added to the SDP. Parents raised ideas regarding improving our numbers of applicants gaining places at Oxbridge, improving links within the local community and valuing our creative talent. To be discussed again next time.</p>	
<p>4 Sport Development</p>	
<p>4.1 TRH summarised sports’ development thus far; and asked parents for opinions upon the future development of sport within PGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern over missed lessons as a result of games and sports fixtures. JDCP and TRH to discuss • TRH acknowledged need to have access to teams for range of pupils • TRH invites parents to contact SJM if there are unacceptable clashes in a pupil’s commitment to clubs etc • TRH invited parents to write to CJD regarding tennis provision • SJM explained that sailing may become a viable option • Parents raised issue of buying rugby boots and shirts that may not be needed 	<p>TRH JDCP</p> <p>TRH</p>
<p>5 The Development Office and Parents</p>	
<p>5.1 TRH outlined the history of the OP club, the Development Office and the Development Campaign that has been very successful and reached its goals.</p> <p>TRH explained that the DO now needed new tasks that are not necessarily for fund raising. They listed possibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valentines’ Ball for parents • Celebrity speakers 	

	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents Reading Group • Rambling for all the family • Historic Tours • Headmaster's question evening <p>Parents responded with ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fireworks event • Raising money for Charity • Forging links with the Community • Attending events (to include hospitality suites) • Need for a range of prices and events to meet varying budgets • Spring Dance/Ball etc at varying cost for all • Use of marquee to be extended 	
<p>5.2 The DO may need to be renamed to quantify its function and purpose. Parents Forum strongly recommend this and support TRH in the drive to clarify its purpose and renaming</p>	
<p>6 Parents' Information Evenings – Family Problems?</p>	
<p>6.2 TRH handed out an information sheet (see a) and explained Information Evenings</p>	
<p>6.3 TRH asked parents to respond to the possibility of adding a Year 9 info evening. General feeling was against this</p>	
<p>7 Personnel</p>	
<p>TRH is to do a chart of how the Forum will be represented</p>	TRH
<p>8 Forum Dates</p>	
<p>8.1 SJM to provide dates</p>	SJM
<p>9 AOB</p>	
<p>9.1 Dining System</p> <p>SJM explained catering card system which will become cashless</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cards will have to be credited in advance by parents • Pupils need to understand the system to avoid overspending • Concerns regarding unclear pricing were allayed by SM – pricing will be visible in future 	

	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern from parents that the lack of cash facility exclude pupils who want the occasional meal • We must have refund facility for those who rarely spend their allowance • Parents feel pupils must have a daily spending limit • Lost cards are re-issued by the Bursary at a cost of 30p • Questionnaire to be issued to parents regarding strengths and weaknesses of system at end of term 	SJM
<p>9.2 Communications Systems</p> <p>Parent commented that email and phones had not been working</p> <p>TRH listed problems of communications systems and assured parents that situation will improve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents to email TRH regarding problems immediately <p>Meeting closed at 9.04pm</p>	

Dist: All present
Website