

Meeting: Parent Council Meeting 10th January 2017

Present: S Dougan, J Cochrane, L Chuchla, L Henderson, J McIntyre, C Reid, J Crawford, K Murray, C Dingwall, A Cross, G McNally, R Mabon, J Hyslop, A Finlay, T Saunders, T Smith, S Smith, J Dempsey, M Crawford, M Blaney, M Weir.

Apologies: R Provan, L McGillivray, L Shanks, L Barkhouse, L Hunt

Item	Information / Decision	Action
Treasurer's Report	<p>There have been two bank statements since the last meeting, one stating the balance up to 30th November which is £3.08 with one cheque for £40 cashed on 28th November and the latest up to 30th December showing the up-to-date balance of £3.09. This final figure includes a 1p interest payment on 29th December.</p> <p>We have been assured that our administration payment will be made during the week beginning 23rd January.</p>	
Chairperson's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No objections to previous minutes. • New dates of the meetings are 3rd May and 6th June 	
Headteacher's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Dougan updated on ongoing issue with the Mathematics vacancy. Also Mrs Moir is due to take up maternity leave from February so we have advertised across the authority to ask for an acting Principal Teacher post. • Donald Dewar Memorial Debating Tournament – fortunate enough to be moving on to the next round. Will be held 31st January at Bo'ness Academy. • Future Chef Competition - Haden Ramage won this stage of the competition, he will now represent the whole of Forth Valley at the next stage. And if he is successful, he will compete in London. • Information given regarding the YPI - Youth Philanthropist Initiative. This is an organisation which supports local schools. Groups contact local charities and 6 top groups compete for £6k cheque for their chosen charity. • Young Americans will be attending and working with our pupils 6-8th March. This is an amazing opportunity. Youngsters who dance sing and encourage positive energy. Workshops will take place with pupils, and a concert to showcase their work at the end. • Information given regarding the Careers Fayre on 2nd February. • Mr Dougan gave us more information and updated us on the recent school inspection. They were looking at 3 particular areas – curriculum, self evaluation and attainment. The meetings that took place were incredibly positive. They liked the new structure of Pastoral Team and all is moving forward in the right direction. • Mr Dougan was asked for a breakdown of Attainment Figures: comparisons with other schools and demographic breakdown within Bo'ness Academy. He will provide these for meeting on 28th March. 	

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Introductions – Mrs C Reid & Mr Crawford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Reid our Depute Headteacher and Mr Crawford the new head of English, Modern Languages and Literacy introduced themselves. • Discussions followed around the curriculum and developing our rationale. They discussed option choices (and renaming of options) and development of leadership opportunities. • Mrs Reid issued a handout for Parent Council to look over. • Explanation of Curriculum for Excellence and Broad General Education 	
AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent asked about one to one meetings for other years in line with S1, were told this will happen. • Parent discussed tri-level classes with Mr Dougan. • The following were raised after Mr Dougan left – he was emailed re the discussions: • Feedback was given from parents on the last week of term where it was noted that there were a lot of videos being watched in classes. • Parents mentioned that the name ‘Options’ in two contexts was confusing: subject choice options (geography/art etc) and extra option choices. Could we look at a better name to differentiate? • Parents expressed concern regarding rationale of learning and teaching of many options choices (extra curricular). Also requested a clearer understanding for parents and pupils of value/flexible progression of these subjects. • Requested Options (extra) be available for parents to view on school website. • School trips - consensus is these are wanted back this year (to be discussed at next meeting). 	