

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KELSO HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2019



Apologies - Simon Mountford, Jen Redpath (Broomlands PS), Betsy Scott-Watson, Anna Rodwell and Jane Harrison (Treasurer).

Minutes of last meeting

Copies of minutes distributed for review individually.

Welcome and Introduction – Jill Lothian (Head Teacher)

Jill welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced our new PC Chair Gemma O’Brien. JL recapped to the last meeting which she felt went very well, everyone was fully involved, it felt more like a group.

Tom Weatherston noted that none of the Councillors were able to attend due to a clash with another SBC meeting. Generally however at least one of them should be in attendance.

Gemma discussed emails received from SBC regarding meetings relating to SBC Parent Councils and asked if anyone would like to attend. It was agreed that Pam Guthrie would attend with Gemma as she is also PC Chair at Broomlands PS.

Gemma mentioned a previous BC Parent Councils

she has had a wonderful year in the role of Chairperson and would recommend it to others (one person or two together). BS-W raised the need to revise the existing Parent Council Constitution. The best way to help our youngsters and their education is to get involved, help the school and its teachers which will ultimately benefit our children and their education. We need to forward think, get involved with school and the community.

Jill Lothian extended our thanks to Betsy for taking on the Chair role for the past year.

Treasurers Report

Lottery

The number of lines has dropped by 1 as parents of children leaving the school have cancelled their numbers and a few new parents have taken them. We have 4 extra parents playing but one less line.

At present there are 57 people with 201 lines this therefore currently brings £100.50 to the school funds every month and £100.50 to the prize fund.

As this is the main source of fundraising the school does then it would be nice to see more parents joining the lottery.

We had one lucky winner of £1000 in the roll over draw this year. Once the prize fund gets to £1000 we have to draw the numbers until we get a winner.

The prize fund for next month will be £577.

This year we funded a total of £2195 for the following:

Hockey £250

Equestrian £250

Modern studies project re plastic £310

Curling £500

School App £495

Leavers party £150

Prizes for good work £240

Bids Received

Library Volunteers Programme - Request for £500 received to encourage students to help in the KHS Library and keep it open. This would be to purchase books, book tokens, snacks etc. Discussion took place and bid was successful.

Equestrian Team - Request for £250 received to contribute to the cost of the NSEA championships. KHS have 14 riders and 17 ponies qualified for this prestigious event. Discussion took place and bid was successful.

Bee Club - Request for £302.33 received to purchase replacement protective equipment and also new equipment for the club. Funding has also been received from the TM Trust and KHS Finance Committee. Discussion took place and bid was successful.

Hockey - Request for contribution towards the cost of the Topflight Tournament, total cost is £1500. Due to unexpected costs for the Senior Holland Tour assistance is required to help pay for the Topflight tournament being held in Northern Ireland. Discussion took place and a donation of £1000 was agreed. Due to the PC assisting with the above it was suggested that the lottery is pushed to the members to replenish the pot and be able to assist again in the future.

Eco Committee - Request for approx. £520 received to purchase a set of juice cups and hot drink cups which will replace the need to purchase disposable items for each school event. Discussion took place and it was agreed that we would provide £99.96 for a set of juice cups only. It was noted that there are already hot drink cups in school that could be used. Concerns were raised regarding storage of the additional cups, who would be responsible for cleaning, purchase of detergent etc. A report to be provided after cups have been purchased and used at an event to see how it went. If this was successful more could be purchased in the future.

It was suggested that the PC have a presence at the S1 Information Evening, BS-W to attend and promote the PC for 5 minutes to a captive audience.

It was agreed that we must publicise to all and be fair to all groups which ultimately will affect more children within KHS.

It was suggested that when bids are submitted that a representative attends the meeting to explain the bid and the benefit to our youngsters and answer any questions raised.

Discussion took place around the KHS Library, bid received to instigate a reward system for volunteers (pupils) who help out within the Library allowing it to continue in the absence of a Librarian.

It was suggested that a 'wishlist of books' is put together and we can look at purchasing popular titles or putting out requests to youngsters / parents to donate specific books that they may have read and are sitting at home. Mrs Changleng could put together a list and this could be sent to parents via newsletter / email.

It was suggested that once pupils are finished with study books, past papers etc. that they could be donated to the school and sold on at a lower price during parents' evening. This would help lower income households. There would be an opportunity to do this for other items egg uniform, prom dresses etc. A possible swap shop?
G Petty, Y Lewis and G O'Brien happy to progress this further.

How would this all work with the new iPads?

There is still an ongoing review around Librarians, possibly work with Live Borders?

Discussion took place around the display cabinet, a budget of approx. £600 was agreed to purchase this for the foyer area.

Head Teacher's Report - attached

Election of Office Bearers

Chair Person – Gemma O'Brien

Treasurer – Jane Harrison

Clerk – Suzanne Cowe

Jill thanked the PC for all their time and help over the past year, it is very much appreciated.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 29/01/20 at 6.30pm