

LEIGH TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY **PARENTS COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 23rd April 2012

Attendees:

Academy staff: Ms M Leah-Wilkinson - Principal Da Vinci

Parents:

BRUNEL: Wendy Rose, Linda King

CHAUCER: Michael Holmes, Ann Burch, Mo Jenson, Jacqueline Ellis, Sandy Taylor, Glenda Philpott, Machila Bekir

DA VINCI: Karen Brooker

DARWIN: Lindsey Deakin, Emily Isidorou

Apologies: - Tracey Robelett

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

Michael welcomed everyone and gave apologies

2. Website Update

The website page is under construction but we need ideas for FAQ's, some ideas were discussed as were links from the FAQ's. If we decided on a forum it would need to be moderated then posted online or password access only. MLW will speak with staff / other principals for more suggestions.

Action MLW/MH

3. Principle Q&A

- **Exams**– MLW explained that exams are in progress and are the main focus at the moment. 31st May is the Year 11 prom and the Year 13 prom is in July. Ms Rowland's is currently the lead principal.

- **Maths -**

Year 10 maths results were discussed as concerns were raised over the grades achieved, the teachers feel that the grades were lower than they should be / were expected so there is to be an extra exam for those achieving under a grade C. MLW will look into this.

It was explained that different exam boards are used for different subjects but the results all have equal status it is just the percentage of practical to exam ratio that differs.

Scholarships for maths were asked about, MLW will see if this is still something that is offered.

- **HMI Visit** – Feedback has come back but MLW is not sure if it will be published on the website as it is not a full OFSTED.
- **School Fund** – How many parents do actually contribute, annual collections were discussed. MLW to check on this.

Action MLW

19:40pm Principal leaves the meeting

Minutes of previous meeting - Agreed.

4. Update from Previous meeting

Recycling Shop- Flyers are being completed by Emma Winton, the Leigh trust graphic designer; it is to be rolled out to one college first. Various other ideas for the running of the shop were discussed such as online shopping etc.

Pin Badges – We have ordered 1476 pin badges (There are currently 1460 students) this will leave approx. £400 in the funds which could be used for the recycling shop if needed.

Wilmington PTA – MH attended their PTA meeting and found that it is run much more like a PTA (Fund-raising etc.) and headed up by two members of teaching staff. Interest was shown to a few items available to the other schools such as being able to 'see' what your children are spending their lunch money on, setting spending budgets and online top ups. It was also noted that Longfield can pay for trips etc. online through parent pay which was thought to be something that would be good at The Leigh as children sometimes carry cash in to school to pay for trips.

Parent/ Tutor Day – It was also noted that Wilmington are not doing Parent/ tutor days but they will be booking appointments with individual teachers instead. This was a very popular option. It was also discussed that the comments field in the reports coming home are often blank; it is felt that there should be comments and targets or goals set in these boxes every module to all students.

5. Governors Update

- The objection for McDonalds was raised and is being forwarded.
- There are a few new governors some of which are ex-pupils.
- Bridge Primary school has been accepted as a feeder school.
- They would like Wilmington to be completed by October but it will most likely be January.
- York Road – They are trying to get it out of special measures and the headmaster of Oakfield is on-board offering advice.
- Hartley primary should be on-board 1st June.
- UTC bid is in and they are waiting to hear the outcome which should be end May –June.
- Milestone academy is on board and has achieved outstanding. It is a special needs school that will work closely with The Leigh involving students from the Leigh. This year students from Leigh and Milestone will work together towards the Hampton Court Flower Show.
- There is a new bursar as the old one has left and she is currently working fulltime to try to claim some of the allowances back that were not claimed by the previous bursar.
- The next Governors meeting is on 22nd May.

Meeting ends 8.40pm

Next meeting Monday 28th May 2012 at 7pm