

# **LEIGH TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY**

## **PARENTS COUNCIL**

**Minutes of meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

**Attendees:**

**Academy staff:** Kate Box – Acting Principal, Darwin

**Parents:**

**BRUNEL:** Chris Baker, Tracy Roblett, Linda King

**CHAUCER:** Jacqueline Ellis, Sharon Coles, Glenda Philpott, Ann Burch

**DA VINCI:** -

**DARWIN:** - Mo Jensen

**Apologies:** - several apologies rec'd by email - lost/deleted in computer crash

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Welcome and apologies**

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

#### **2. Principal's Q & A**

Kate Box explained that although the maths exams had been taken early again, in year 9, re-sits would be offered to anyone not achieving expected grades.

Recent events included Sports days and the overall winners were Brunel –again! It was also the first joint Academies sports day with Wilmington and Longfield, and thanks and credit must be given to Mr Linders and Mr Thompson for their excellent organisation of all events.

The new girls blouses are now being offered to year 7 and are available for others. These are the shaped ones that we originally had and parents were happy with them.

There are several changes in staffing from September but the Academy is fully staffed. Kate said she is leaving to go to Wilmington, Kevin Brewer will be Vice-Principal of Darwin with a new Principal taking over Mark Poulter's job (currently done by Kate as Acting Principal).

There will be a new Vice-Principal for Brunel following Megan West's departure as well as a new Head of Modern Foreign Languages as Mr Marie is leaving.

The 6<sup>th</sup> form is full for September, subject to the success of student's A level results which are out on 18<sup>th</sup> August. GCSE results are out on 25<sup>th</sup> August.

A parent questioned the on-line reporting system, saying that there are few comments to enable them to really assess progress of a student. Kate explained that the grades are there to show progression, and comment would only be necessary if there is significant variation between reports. She would expect parents to have had some discussion with or contact from teachers if performance was falling below expected levels between reports .

Academy wise, the inclusion of York Road into the Trust would take place later in the year, but would not be likely to be by September as originally hoped. A parent asked if this would affect admission arrangements and the sibling link entry. There was no definitive answer to this as Chris understood that admission criteria would change eventually but due to the numbers, the sibling link would still allow those wishing to attend the Leigh to do so. Any changes would take some time to implement anyway.

Before leaving the meeting, Kate expressed thanks on behalf of the Academy to Chris for her involvement in the Parent Council over the past 5 years. There were no more questions, so Kate left the meeting at 7.50pm

### **3. Minutes of previous meeting - Agreed.**

**4. Parent Governor update -** Nothing had been received from the Parent Governor Dave Auty. He had said that he would cease to be the Parent Governor at the end of this year his son leaves the Academy. There would be further changes to the make up of the Governing body with the inclusion of Milestone and York Road into the Trust, so parent governor positions may change anyway.

### **5. Any other business**

Tracy Roblett reported that she had nothing to report on the 'recycling shop' as no progress seems to have been made. A leaflet needs to be produced to really push it and gets items in before we can move forward.

Chris said that this should be her last meeting as from September she will not have a child at the Academy, thus cannot continue as Chair. Tracy Roblett is Vice Chair, and a new Chair has to be elected. The year 7 Parent Council welcome letter will go out next month, which Chris will facilitate. Once those replies are in she will contact parents to advise them of the September meeting, Chris will arrange and open that meeting and then formally step down from her role.

Meeting closed 8.30pm

Date of next meeting Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2011.