

School Council Meeting

3.02.06

Present:- Joshua Stronach, Shaun Mathias, Adam Smith, Joe Harmandian-Hadley, Jessica Young, Jake Butler, Dan Meredith. Bob Paul as Chair, Vicky Orman - Minute taker.

Apologies – Jack Lewis (unable to attend)

Absent – Leyton Jones, Amber Sims.

Matters arising

The meeting opened with feedback on the action points of the previous meeting. Vicky reported that in response to the Council's concerns about the area behind Tracy Snell's classroom, the area was barricaded off so it could not be used and be a 'hot spot' for problems. Equipment from that area was also moved as suggested but some of the playground equipment proved to be concreted in so could not be moved easily.

Vicky reported that Terry and Adrian had been asked about installing 2Simple2animate on additional computers. This has been done, but if there are further computers that they want it put on if they could please let us know so it can be requested.

Andy was also informed about the other premises issues and the council were aware that he had dealt with some of the problems and look forward to hearing from him regarding the other issues.

The School Council also asked what was happening regarding the water cooler as they knew it was been measured up and as yet there is no sign of installation.

Actions:- Bob to revisit the SMT action – talking about Sensory room usage, Tuck shop idea, sensory garden. Bob/Vicky to inquire about the Water cooler.

ICT

Adam fed back that the wireless internet in the DT room is intermittent at best. It has a tendency for the connection to drop. When it is working it is good, but it doesn't work consistently. He suggested that they get one that works a bit better, especially if we are going to have more of them.

More requests were made to upgrade computers. Bob informed them all that there were some new ones due in to replace some PC's and there would, with the new building, be some additional laptops being purchased like the ones used in the Design Technology room.

The website was discussed again and Adam suggested that maybe it would be an idea for the school site to be the homepage for some of the school computers. He suggested that we did this in the ICT suite to start with. He thought that this would mean pupils would look at it more, though they were looking now and think of things to put on it.

Action:- Bob/Vicky to ask about resetting homepage in ICT suite, and to inform SMT about the wireless internet problems.

Premises.

The door to the DT room was brought up – the automatic door closer is a problem. It will open for the first person going through and then close on everyone else. It has quite a bit of force behind it,

and it was thought it could be dangerous for people in wheelchairs and some students. The re-opener does not trigger fast enough. The School Council members demonstrated this problem and it was agreed that the SMT and Andy needed to know about it.

Action:- Vicky/ Bob to inform SMT and Andy about the door closer.

New Buildings.

A discussion was had about the new buildings, with Bob describing the new things that would be available to the students. The school council were very interested in the discussions going on for the next stage of the building projects and felt it was important that the students of the school be consulted as to what they thought were priorities as well to get a complete view.

Action:- Bob to ask SMT about student consultation for building

Peer counsellors / Prefects.

The School Council asked again about the possibility of having some peer counsellors or students that would help out and be approachable for students.

This lead onto a discussion of House systems and prefects. The School Council have several members who have had experience of a variety of 'House' systems. They liked the idea of having an identity that spans across groups. They thought that having the equivalent of prefects who had a responsibility to do things like organise lines of pupils waiting for class, to make sure people are not in corridors and to be available for other pupils to talk to if they were not comfortable with going to a teacher or LSA straight away. They thought that it could potentially tie into the rewards system somehow.

It was suggested that maybe there was a trial week of a system to see if it was something that the students would really like and was beneficial.

Schools Nutrition Action Group.

Adam was elected as the official representative for the School council and students on this group. He will put the students views about food across. He has attended one meeting and reported that he had told them that the food was a lot better, and had suggested things like a day in the month where the food had a theme to do with different countries which would be good in giving students something interesting and widening experiences.

Ofsted feedback.

Bob informed the School Council of how important and how interested the Ofsted inspectors had been in their contribution to the school. He thanked them for their commitment and what they had achieved and that it had helped the school get such a good result.

The meeting closed at 1.45pm