Penicuik High School Parent's Association Meeting

Wednesday 2nd December

At 7pm in Penicuik High School

Attendees – Mr Edie, Miss Adamson, Jennifer Martin, Gillian Shepherd, Julie Begbie, Liz Davidson, Lana Easton, Helen Armstrong, Adam Kennedy, Andy Law, Rachel Law, Alison McKenzie, Susan Wilson.

Apologies - Amanda Crawshaw

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

1. Jennifer spoke to Andy about 50/50 club – need a volunteer and time to do a handover.

2. New National Qualifications Report (N4/N5) – looking at whole area of senior/higher courses in S4 & S5, timetables will be aligned as some pupils will be capable and able to do a higher qualification at s4. This will be discussed at Feb meeting.

3. PHSPA Banner – Jennifer will contact Linda Davidson in School Office.

4. Jennifer confirmed she e-mailed list of parents evening dates to all members.

5. Jennifer asked Mr Edie if money needed for hardship fund, Mr Edie confirmed no money needed at present.

**Visable Learning (Miss Adamson)** – Miss Adamson gave a powerpoint presentation on Visible Learning. She presented on the findings from John Hattie who had a large team working on finding out what has an impact in the classroom. He deduced that making a learning goal visible hugely increases the learning process.

**Penicuik High School Focuses** –

1. To make the goal of each lesson clear through learning intentions and success criteria.

2. To provide better feedback to students.

**Students were survey and we asked the following questions**-

1. How do you know what you are learning?

2. Feedback on where student is and where they are meant to be.

Next steps – work on pupil mindset, growth Vs fixed mindset, continue with focus on feedback. How lessons and learning has changed in school. Each teacher decides on the learning intention.

**Activities Week (Miss Adamson)** – school surveyed parents, students & staff. People surveyed asked for the following:- Offer a weekly and monthly savings scheme, every activity has a weekly, monthly and total cost, all activities announced at the same time, more specific activities, more detail included in description, activities not allocated on a first come, first served basis, all pupils to get their first choice (school will try to accommodate this), wider choices, local residential ( Fordell Firs was found), Senior only trip S3 upwards, S4 only and an activity on a Friday morning too. All forms needed to be in by 27/11/15 but school are still waiting for a lot of forms (120) to come back.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Current Balance - £1,728.49

- £200 was donated by Parent's Association to the Big Day

- Rachel Law (Head Girl) thanked Parent's Association for paying for netball strips (£160).

- 50/50 Club – Andy and Liz will continue to do draws. We need to encourage more participants to join as this is our main income.

**Head Teacher's Report**

1. Staffing – temp staff who started in August have now left for permanent jobs elsewhere. Have secured 2 teachers until May who are currently been covering for long term sickness.

2. Big Day – excellent day, only had to pay for inflatable bungee run and assault course, secured for half price. Raised £1,015.40 with £605 in expenses. Next year school will slim back on amount spent on prizes due to the amount of money raised.

3. Nurture Room – School have been meeting with Ikea, they will provide materials for room.

4. Mrs Forbes has been giving an introduction in school of The Rights Respecting School Project.

5. Firedrill – an unannounced and an announced firedrill was undertaken in the school, both went well, although there will be a couple of tweaks - Josie Adamson will taking it on.

6. Junior Team of the Year at The Midlothian Sports Awards.

7. School to the fore at The Midlothian Festival of Music.

8. Pupil behaviour at Tesco was flagged up by members of public – Senior Management Team have been going down for a look and don't see any problem.

9. Christmas Hampers now underway.

10. There has been significant input from senior pupils with Penicuik First and Storehouse Project, school is at forefront of these projects. There was a Gig held recently to promote storehouse – shares £25 each.

11. This Friday 300 pupils from all over Scotland have been invited to school, invited guest Steven Gettins (formar pupil of Mr Edie).

**Funding Requests**

1. Nuture Room – grant, materials from Ikea, no need for money from us yet.

2. Fundraising for specific trips – mostly parents will do bag packs, etc to fund raise.

**A.O.B**

1. Feedback from parents evening (S5/S6) - tea/coffee - £29.22 was raised. Next one is S4 on 12/1/16 – looking for volunteers. There was homebaking with peanuts in it which was not know to members doing teas/coffees, so in future a list detailing what is in home baking will be asked for. Also a notice will be displayed stating we cannot guarantee cakes do not contain nuts.

2. Fundraising – Silent Auction – Jennifer will organise a date in January to discuss and will put an e-mail out to all parents.