



Craigmount High School Parent Council – Meeting of Council on 10 October 2022 via Teams

Meeting Pack

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CRAIGMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Agenda 10/10/2022

1	Apologies, Welcome, Minutes and Matters Arising	AT	19:00-19:10 (10 mins)
2.	Craigmount Update	CM	19:05-19:20 (15 mins)
3.	Staff Presentations - Equalities	KC/DS	19:20-19:50(30 mins)
4.	Issues Raised by PC - Cost of Living support (incl. uniforms, breakfast club) - Resumption of School Trips/Foreign Trips - Work Experience	AT (from Facebook)	19:50-20:30 (15 mins)
4.	Treasurer's Report	DG	20:05-20:10 (5 mins)
5.	Fundraising Report - Update on School Requests - Music instrument provision	AT/GH	20:10-20:15 (5 mins)
6.	AOB - Parents Evening	AT	20:15-21:45(30 mins)

CRAIGMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2022

PARENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alistair Turnbull (Chair), John McLeod (Vice-Chair), Alison Humphreys, Alison Thomson, Gilly Herbert, Lucy Hunter, Ian Batty, Jane Crewe, Jeanette Ross, Claire Labelle, Nicola Currie-Mullan

STAFF

Colin Meikle (Head Teacher), Karen Coull, David Sansom

GUESTS

Cllr Euan Davidson, Cllr Euan Hyslop

PUPIL FORUM MEMBERS

[Names of attendees retained by secretary]

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Dale Graham (Treasurer) and Mark Bingham

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. No action points were identified other than those noted elsewhere on the agenda.

It was noted that there were a few administrative matters which had been taken off-line and would be dealt with by core Parent Council members in due course.

3 CRAIGMOUNT UPDATE

CM was joined by James and Ella from S6 to deliver the Craigmount Update

Matters arising as follows:

- One set of formal assessments to be held for the senior phase this year in late November and early December. There will be other assessments in the spring but these will be undertaken within the class timetable.
- Day themes introduced to Tutor time (e.g. Tech Tuesday & Wellbeing Wednesday) in order to provide greater structure to these sessions.
- Humanatopia sessions held within the school. Externally facilitated sessions helping students to understand hierarchies and break down barriers within year groups. This project is believed to have been very successful.
- Evening of Celebration on 12 October at Craigsbank Church. Awards have been broadened and it was reported that double the number of pupils will receive an award under the new structure.
- A parent calendar has now been completed and is available on the website.
- Noted that there had now been 850 downloads of the new Craigmount App.
- The roll out of iPads to pupils is now complete and the PC members congratulated the school on the success of that project.

4 EQUALITIES UPDATE

David Samson delivered an update on equalities and anti-bullying work within the school.

The PC were shown examples of new posters for both staff and pupils. These aim to show both staff and pupils what they can and should do in different circumstances and what support is available.

In the more serious cases, the standard flow chart would still be followed, but the cases may be escalated more quickly. The Class Charts system is an important component of the system to record timeously what has been done.

Noted that CEC insist that all racist incidents are recorded on SEEMiS

Outcomes can include:

- Restorative practice
- Parent/carer involvement
- Peer mentoring
- De-escalation strategies

Beyond these, there could also be:

- Physical separation
- Assessment for ASN
- Referral to specific outside services

It was noted that notwithstanding the existence of the flowchart, this is guidance and everything will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

Finally, it was noted that the strategy is still evolving. However, it is the most asked for policy within the school. It is due to be discussed by staff at the upcoming in-service day.

5 Parent Council Updates

Cost of Living Support

- Uniform

Noted that there is a stock of uniform items available and that some S6 pupils are helping to target uniform items to 'need'.

CM noted that there is something in the School Improvement Plan around uniform. He has no strong feeling about the detail of this but believes that it is useful for there to be a school identity even if it is grounded simply in 'colour' rather than logo'd items. Noted that the prescription of uniform can assist parents by taking away the pressure to wear expensive 'branded' clothing.

- Breakfast Club

It was noted that there is a group of staff who are currently working to reconstitute this, in liaison with Karen Coull. No launch date set as yet, but hoping for soon after the October holidays.

- Other

It was suggested that in the current environment, traditional 'badges' of poverty (such as qualifying for free school meals, were not necessarily sufficient.

Noted that the key message for parents is to get in touch. There are a number of discrete 'assistance' solutions in the school.

School Trips and Residentials

CM noted that curricular trips and day trips are now up and running.

The format of the WOW for next year is currently under review.

Overseas trips are still prohibited by CEC (citing insurance issues)

It was noted that S2 have missed out on both a P7 and an S1 residential, although they did have an 'Epic Day'. The school and CEC are still considering the outward-bound trips. The centres are said to be not yet fully up and running.

The Councillors in attendance were asked to follow up on the question of overseas trips and the likely timetable for the planning of these being permitted (given that they generally have a significant lead time).

Work Experience

CM was asked what plans there were to be bring back the work experience week which, pre-COVID, was part of the S4 timetable.

CM noted that, even before COVID came along, many schools were changing their arrangements for work experience (both in Edinburgh and across the country). The previous scheme presented huge logistical challenges and increasingly, the best opportunities were those which were arranged through parental contacts rather than through the school or Council. This was beginning to have significant equalities implications.

Noted that meaningful May (for those not involved in SQA exams) has a work experience element.

CM indicated that he would look at this topic again to weigh up/look at different ways of delivering work experience.

6 Treasurer's Report

In DG's absence it was noted that the PC had funds of c£8k, and really need to start spending them!

CM to bring ideas and funding requests to the next meeting.

7 Fundraising Report

Kristoferson Carpets have given a donation for the music department - £200, which will be annual.

Football Strips – S1 sponsored by Mortgage Force, S4 sponsored by Polwarth Motors. School to confirm if there are any more teams currently needing kit.

New picnic benches are currently on order – no delivery date received as yet.

CM reported back on a question raised about musical instruments provision. The head of music has reported that there was no actual shortage (noted that the original quote had come from a peripatetic instrumental teacher).

8. AOB – S3 Parents Night - 21 November

JMcL noted that the S3 Parents Night on the 21 November was scheduled to be an in-person event and asked whether the Parent Council would be able to have a stall selling quiz sheets.

CM confirmed there was no problem from a school perspective. AT suggested that arrangements were taken off-line to be finalised post-meeting.



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Equalities and anti-bullying update

- Discussions with staff, young people and some parents.
- Ready to launch the updated policy and procedures.
- Looking to empower and give confidence to the young people with regards to “how to” report and “what happens” when they report

Reporting of Anti-Equalities Behaviour.

Hear IT • See IT • Report IT

Challenge

Discuss privately. Speak to the young people involved to find out what was said or done.

Record on Classcharts

Writing down everything the young people say. Record an anti-equalities referral on classcharts for this alleged perpetrator and refer to the PSL.

Pupil Support Leader

Investigate the incident further and take action when appropriate. Pass the information to the equalities lead.

Equalities Lead

Review and record the incident where appropriate.

Follow Up

The pupil support leader will follow up with the young people/adults involved. The equalities lead will monitor.



Reporting Discrimination

Listen

These incidents can be traumatic. We will listen, reassure and take you seriously. We will ask you what would be helpful in this situation.

Investigate

After speaking with you we will speak to anyone else you have told us or heard the incidents. We will take statements from them as well.

We can work with partner services. We can work with the police. We will discuss the action plan with you to see if you are satisfied with it.

What we can do

- Restorative practice
- Involve parent/carer
- Peer monitoring
- De-escalation strategies
- Physical separation
- Consequences
- Assessment of additional support needs
- Referral to specific services



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The visuals



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Remaining actions

1. Finish the visuals and get them printed
2. Launch with staff at the INSET day
3. Launch with young people in PSE to ensure they understand the range of strategies we can employ
4. Share with the wider school community



Treasurers Report October 2021

Treasurers summary & highlights:

- Overview of current funds balance
- A confirmation that YE 2021 accounts have been prepared and are yet to be independently verified
- Final cash count shall be performed at year end 30 April

Current balances	£
Treasurers Account	4,087.66
200 Club	212.06 (latest provided)
Petty Cash	57.27
Total	4,356.99

Grant Application	Date	Purpose	Amount	Outcome
				tbc
				tbc
				tbc
Total			£tbc	

Committed spend	Amount	Date
CHS Wish List	tbc	tbc
200 Club Spend	tbc	tbc
Total	£tbc	

Dale Graham

Treasurer

11th October 2021