

Jersey College for Girls Parents' Association
Minutes of a Committee Meeting
held on Tuesday 23rd February 2016

Members Present:

Cathy Keir ("CK") - Chair
Allison Soulsby ("AS") – Minute Secretary
Sandra Noel ("SN") - Treasurer
Vivien St George ("VSG")
Ruth Siodlak ("RS")
Jane Wankling ("JW")
Peter Marett ("PM") – Assistant Head Teacher
E Silvestri-Fox

Apologies for absence:

Alexa Blampied ("AB")
Leanda Guy ("LG") – Foundation Director
Jane Blakeley ("JB")
Annie Le Quesne ("ALQ")
Stephen Whale ("SW") – Hon. Auditor
Janet Hodges ("JH") – Prep Rep
Sally-Ann Carter ("SAC")
Lisa Parker ("LP")

Welcome

CK welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

Approval of Minutes from meeting held on 14 September 2015

The minutes from the meeting held on 14 September 2015 were approved.

Matters Arising from previous Minutes

It was noted that sourcing of a PA "Pop Up" Banner was still outstanding.

Update on Changes to Tracking Student Progress/National Framework

Mrs Silvestri-Fox was invited to present to the PA a brief overview of the forthcoming GCSE grading changes and the need to change the student tracking system from the UK National Curriculum tracking levels as these have been withdrawn in the UK. GCSE grades are changing from letters to numbers with new grade 5/4 being equivalent to Grade C. KS3 students will operate within a new tracking system within a centralized framework agreed with ESC.

The new student tracking system is likely to follow a 'flight path' model and will map back from GCSE grades. It should be noted that learning is not necessarily a linear path – more of a journey. These are likely to be numeric, have +/- levels to reflect development within levels and have descriptors for each subject to enable greater focus on GCSEs and appropriate skills.

Proposals are draft at this stage and wider feedback will be undertaken in due course in preparation for an autumn introduction.

Treasurer's Report

SN noted that the mandate changes still needed to be finalised and she was in the process of chasing Ian Meeks.

Once the mandate has been updated then payment to JCG for the Drone can be made.

SN has contacted co-op and signatories on there are Katherine Bolton and Ruth Siodlak. RS is content to remain on and it was proposed and agreed that CK would be added and KB removed as soon as possible.

There are approximately £3,100 funds available.

Association of Jersey Charities (“AJC”)

Annual return and fees now due.

PM agreed to remind staff about the PA ‘wish list’ for funding so that grant applications to the AJC can be considered.

Programme of Events

CK shared a letter that had been drafted to Year 7 parents in respect of the forthcoming **Scavenger Hunt on 18 March**. This would be sent out by parent mail. CK & husband will plan and set the hunt.

The idea of encouraging parents in to the school to find out more about JCG was discussed and was suggested that this could possibly be linked to architecture week. It was agreed that it would be good to target specific areas and parents/students together.

It was agreed that we should set a date for the **Annual Quiz**. This was provisionally agreed as **Thursday 28th April**. CK agreed to contact the ‘quizmaster’ Stephen Whale to see if he was willing and available.

Funding Requests

1 Funding request has been received so far from the Drama Department. This is to replace the old Mac 300 and 250 intelligent lights that are now noisy and not cost effective to repair. The total amount required is £7500.

PM agreed to remind staff to submit requests for consideration.

Foundation Update

Library Repatriation Celebration - **Sat 12 March** - ALL Old Girls welcome -

PREPARE 2016 - Revision Academy 2016 for GCSE and A levels - ALL JERSEY STUDENTS INVITED!

Loyalty Card – It was asked if the loyalty card could be extended to more/different shops in order to attract more interest. It was felt that this would be a good idea if it can be achieved.

Remaining **Philanthropic Lunch Series dates are Tues 26 April, Tues 21 June and Tues 18 October** inviting like-minded souls to discuss supporting education in Jersey.

Next Foundation Meetings:

11 May 2016

CK advised that a JCG PTA Trust Fund existed along with JCG Scholarship & Bursary Funds which whilst managed by the same Trustees retained funds independently. CK further advised that it had previously been suggested that the PA might consider donating a

percentage of funds raised annually to the Trust Fund. The fund is used to support girls who encounter a change in financial circumstances and is in need of topping up.

This was considered by the meeting but it was felt that the PA did not raise sufficient funds annually to make a worthwhile donation. It was felt that a well-timed annual letter to parents of leavers achieved better results.

Website

PM reported that he has received some feedback as requested on the website but was always happy to receive more. Feedback so far has referred to 'busyness' of the site and the need to prune certain information.

There is a desire for alphabetical navigation of teachers and identification of form tutors.

It was suggested that perhaps the 'sales' element of the website for potential new students should be separated from the 'parent information'

Feedback continues to be welcome at any time in an effort to keep the website useful to all.

Any Other Business

It was asked if JCG still provide 6th Form identity cards that enable students to obtain discounts in local retailers. It was questioned if the Smart cards in use could be adapted for this purpose. RS agreed to enquire of Top Shop what they would be looking for to enable discount to be obtained.

Date for the Next Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for **Monday 18th April 2016 at 6.30pm in The Library.**

It is evident that there is not a single weekday is good for everyone so we would really welcome your feedback on when would be a good day/time for PA meetings. We really would like to appeal to the widest audience possible so please do share your alternative proposals with Cathy Keir, Allison Soulsby or Peter Marett.