

School Council Meeting Minutes: 23.11.2009

Present: Fiona Cram (7JB), Ryan Croft (7JB), Andrew Lorimer (8LC), Natasha Marjoram (8AVC), Latifah Makuyi (12JLI), Conn O'Neill (12JES), Luke Walley (12PC), Felicity Woodhouse (11KSH), Mr Jennings (RJ)

Not Present: Alex Smith (10JP), Ben Bateson (9ADM), Lauren Hought (9ADM)

Apologies: Hannah Bourdon (11FV)

Agenda:

- **Communication** All present had already provided e-mail addresses. It was discussed that there is a problem in notes getting from tutor group pigeon holes to tutees. **Action:** RJ to investigate.
- **Suggestions Box:** RJ Informed the council that this has now been made. It will be put on a table outside his office. **Action:** RJ will put a notice in the student bulletin letting people know that it is there.
- **School Lift:** RJ told the council that he has asked tutors to remind all students that the lifts are only for those who cannot use the stairs for any reason. Those students will have permission.
- **Meetings:** All members will be expected to arrive as soon as they can, informal discussion will take place whilst lunch is eaten before the meeting commences at 12.20pm.
- **Tutor Rep Meetings:** Conn and Luke told the council that they had spoken to the year leaders for Y8, 10 and 11. The year leaders promised that regular meetings would be taking place however this does not appear to have happened. Felicity told the council that she was not aware of a Y11 meeting having taken place in the last month but this may be because of her attendance being irregular. The council agreed that it would be best if all year groups implemented the model used by RJ in Y7 whereby the students chair their own meetings and he is only present in an advisory capacity. **Action:** RJ to speak to year leaders and work on a solution.
- **Sixth Form Council Link:** Latifah Makuyi (12JLI) has now joined the council to put forward the ideas of the sixth form's elected body.
- **Sustainability:** Conn showed the council the letter that had been sent to all tutor reps advising them on how to help with saving energy at IGS. Conn then showed the letter that would be e-mailed to all staff, the council approved of both letters. **Action:** RJ will circulate the e-mail to all staff.

As a way of measuring the energy consumption within school, the council would have liked to study each department's energy consumption, unfortunately due to the wiring of the school this would not be possible. It is possible to look at the old and new buildings separately. It was agreed that we would look at the energy use in the fourth week of the spring term (as it is the first possible occasion when all students are in school

and lessons will be taking place as usual due to mock exams and the Y9 residential). In week five of the spring term, we will reveal to staff how much energy was used in week four and challenge them to reduce it as much as possible in week five. **Action:** Luke to speak to Mrs Beeson (School Bursar) about implementing this.

- **School Council E-mail:** External e-mail accounts cannot easily send attachments onto the IGS system; this makes it complicated for distributing minutes. It would also be useful for the council to have an IGS email address so that mass emails could be sent to all staff when needed. **Action:** RJ to discuss with IT Technicians.
- **“The Really Good School Dinner”** Conn showed the council the website of this charity. The charity propose that 10p be placed in a bucket after a meal has been purchased with the theory being that you are paying an extra ten pence on your meal which will help to provide a meal for a student in a third world country. The council decided that this would not be practical at IGS because of the overstretched catering facilities that we have; we agreed that it would be best if during registration each morning for the week of the project (w/c 25th January 2010), 10p was voluntarily donated by each student. By participating in this scheme, IGS would gain official recognition by the charity. We voted on whether IGS should participate and unanimously agreed that we should. **Action:** Conn will look further into it.
- **Christmas Decorations** A number of suggestions were made on how to make the school look festive including year group Christmas trees which would be decorated and decorating classrooms with the winner in each year group gaining super tutor group points. RJ explained to the council the cost of Christmas trees and the decision that had been made by the leadership team that there would only be a tree in the main entrance this year and that money that would have been spent on the tree outside his office has instead been spent on a stereo system that he will use to play Christmas songs on. The council could use it's small budget to buy a tree for each year group but more economical alternatives (given the council's mandate for the year is sustainability) would be a stained glass window competition between tutor groups or year groups. Classrooms could be decorated and judged for super-tutor group points but the room type would have to be taken into account (as some classrooms e.g. Art, science and ICT cannot be decorated as much as others). **Action:** the matter will be carried to the next meeting.
- **Attendance** Some members have not attended recent meetings. **Action:** RJ will speak to year leaders to see if different representatives should be attending on behalf of the year group.

Meeting closed at 12.50pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 7th December 2009

If you cannot attend the next meeting, apologies should be sent to Conn by e-mail: conn.oneill@live.co.uk or you can find Luke during registration in M10.