

School Council Meeting Minutes: 7.12.2009

Present: Fiona Cram (7JB), Ryan Croft (7JB), Andrew Lorimer (8LC), Natasha Marjoram (8AVC), Conn O'Neill (12JES), Luke Walley (12PC), Lauren Hought (9ADM), Mr Jennings (R)

Not Present: Ben Bateson (9ADM), Felicity Woodhouse (11KSH), Hannah Bourdon (11FV)

Apologies: Latifah Makuyi (12JLI)

Agenda:

- **Tutor-rep Meetings:** Meetings appear to be taking place regularly and discussions are effective in KS3, there is still concern as to whether anything is happening in KS4. **Action:** Conn will speak to Mrs Wood (KS4 Pastoral Support Worker) about this.
- **Sustainability:** RJ read out an e-mail from Dr Smith (Biology) in response to the e-mail sent to all staff regarding energy saving. She has suggested students watch the "Age of Stupid" video at www.ageofstupid.net. Natasha told the council that she had already seen this film in her science lessons and that it would be good for students to see. Dr Smith also suggested that IGS register for the 10:10 campaign. **Action:** Conn will investigate 10:10 (1010uk.org) and will give more details to the council at the next meeting.

Luke has spoken to Mrs Wilkinson (Assistant Bursar) regarding electricity meters. The meters will be read on the week commencing 11th January without notifying staff; the following week we will e-mail all staff and request that they attempt to reduce energy consumption from the previous week. In keeping with the 10:10 campaign, we would aim to reduce usage by 10%. From the first week in February, the energy used by the school in the past fortnight and the cost of that energy will be displayed on the display boards around school and included in the student bulletin.

- **Library:** The council have observed recent messages on the bulletin requesting that any student playing educational games on the computers in the library should give priority to those wishing to do school work. The council feel that it would be best if games were not permitted at all in the library as it is primarily a study area – if students wish to make use of these undoubtedly effective educational games, they should do so in the ICT rooms designated for their use at lunchtimes (KS3: B10, KS4: K3). **Action:** Conn will discuss with library staff.
- **Quiet Room:** As the library can become overcrowded quickly, the council feels it would be a good idea to have a designated 'quiet room' available for homework. RJ reminded the council that Mrs Cowley runs a homework club for KS3 three days a week and that KS4 have the use of their social areas. It is possible that the council could negotiate with staff to see the KS3 homework club open all days. **Action:** Matter carried to

next meeting.

- **Non-uniform:** The Y7 reps asked for and have been awarded a whole school non-uniform day on Friday 18th December where all funds will be directed towards 'green' issues in school. As the BSF programme means the school will be relocated in the near future, any trees planted would not have preservation orders so it would not be worthwhile to plant any. We could however have plants in pots. **Action:** When the total amount raised is known, the council will discuss how to allocate it.

The council would like to have a non-uniform day for Comic relief. **Action:** Conn will speak to Mrs James (Headteacher)

- **Uniform:** We had a numerous requests from the suggestions box that girls should be allowed to wear IGS cardigans as an alternative to the school jumper. The council understands that cardigans are coming back into fashion that may be an underlying motive in this request though it is apparent that they would be easier to remove if students become too hot etc. The requests made specific requests for colouring and styling but the council feels that the introduction of a cardigan is desirable for its practicality but the leadership team should have the say on its design. **Action:** Conn will speak to Mrs James (Headteacher).
- **Young Citizens Awards:** RJ had passed information on this event to Conn in the week commencing 30th November. The Young Citizens awards are organised Bradford council and if IGS desires, it can nominate students for awards in any of the following categories: Be Healthy; Stay Safe; Enjoy and Achieve; Make a positive contribution; Achieve economic well being. **Action:** Information will be sent to year leaders and tutor reps can discuss whether they would like to nominate anyone from their year group.
- **Display Board:** This is difficult to maintain and not in a particularly visible place to students. We will stop using it from January 2010 and instead have our own area on the school website which will be accessible to both students, parents and the wider community.

Meeting closed at 12.45pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 4th January