St Luke's Science & Sports College
Parent Council Meeting

Present: Vivianne Areandal; Cath de Wolf; Anne Ridgley; Michelle Rogers; Delia Willingham; Haya Tripp; Julie Phelan; Clare Hepworth-Wain; Ali Taylor

Apologies: Carolyn Purslow; Jayne Turl; Siobhan Vickery; Terri Chudley; Gail

Minutes of the last meeting

Link Governor
Julie will ask Terry to email Full Governors to ask if they would nominate someone to be our link governor.

Matters Arising

None.

Back to School Evening – review

We had 75 replies of interest in the evening and 51 parents turned up for what was a great fun evening. Clare thanked the representatives from the council, Viv, Cath, Anne and Michelle. The students got a lot out of it, it brought departments together and teachers said they really enjoyed working in a different way with the students and other teachers in the school. This is a positive way of reaching out to parents and allowing parents to be in contact with the school outside of the academic structure (parents evenings etc). The students who took part will each receive a certificate and a small gift as a thank you.

Surveys: Viv, Cath, Clare, Anne & Michelle canvassed the parents that attended to find out what events would be popular to do in the future, they were:

European Evening
Weird Science
Family Quiz Night
Family Sports Night

Discussion re further collaborative events (PG/College)

When looking at our next event, Julie thought it would be good to remind ourselves of the upcoming events already planned for the summer term:

Upcoming Events:

23 – 26 May	Futuroscope (Year 8)
4 June	Creative Arts Evening
11 June	Year 8 Parents Evening

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12 June	Awards Evening
19 June	Year 7 Gifted and Talented Master Class
25 June	Year 7 Parents Evening
27 June	Year 8 European Day
3 July	Sampling Day (new year 7)
9 July	New Parents Evening
15 July	Sports Day
17 – 23	Activities Week
23 July	End of Term

It would be lovely to have some parents come along to the new parents evening on 9 July. Clare said she would be happy to support those who came along to encourage more parents to join us – maybe offering a few snacks and some wine – or schloer! The evening will run from 6.30 – 8.30 and we could run a desk to publicise the council and some of the events we are putting together.

Website Link

It was suggested that we could put a link on our website to either Carillion or Jackie (who runs the adult education classes in the evenings) to publicise the evening classes and the independent out of hours courses and events that take place here.

Action: Julie to speak to Jackie re the courses due to run in September.

School Disco

The council would like to look into running a school disco but need to know how they can book events that would take place in the evening. There is a question over insurance for these type of events – other considerations are:

Supervision
Hire Hall
Hire Disco
Refreshments
Upper school supervise lower school???? Is this allowed?

Action: Ali to get number for group to ring for more information (Carillion)
Julie to speak to Terry re supervision.

Anne put forward a suggestion for a "Battle of the Bands" or similar event. They have run a similar event at another school and it was very successful. The final suggestion was that we could invite anyone to come along and showcase their talent – parents, students and teachers. We would call it "St Lukes' got Talent" (in the theme of Britain's got talent at present on TV). We would run it in September/October 2008. We could ask Carillion if they would be involved – catering, and ask teachers if they would help. Anne offered to man the phone – to take the "bookings" for a 5 minute slot on the night and maybe involve some of the students in the planning etc.

We would need to check if we had the following available for the night:

St Luke's Science & Sports College CPF

PA system
Hall Hire
Food
Drinks

Action: **Julie to check with Terry if ok to go ahead with this idea.**
Ali to check with Carillion cost of Hall hire, and whether they would be prepared to do the food – cost etc.
Clare to check with teachers to see if they would be willing to get involved – e.g.JO, JS, JA, WN, IP, MW etc

Confirmation of status

The group confirmed that they wish to be known as the St Luke's Parent Council and Ali will contact the relevant departments to ensure that we are registered in this way.

Action: **Ali to deal with name change**

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 7 July at 6.30 p.m. to discuss the forthcoming events, including helpers for the 9 July (new parents evening).

Any other business

Sports Day

Delia asked about the validity of sports day for the students who were not involved in the sporting events taking place. Julie explained that Sports Day is about supporting your house and your fellow team members. It is up to the Sports Captains to get members of their houses to take part in the events that are organised for the day.

Interim Reports/Monitoring Grades

Julie asked the council for their thoughts on the information we send out to parents showing target and attainment for their child. The first column – entitled Target (end of year 9) was felt to be misleading as it is actually the national average for the student based on their Key Stage 2 results (taken in year 6). Julie explained that this is a benchmark figure only and not one that will change if the student improves beyond this target. It was also felt that it is difficult to show that a student could be working to the very best of their ability in homework and commitment – and getting A grades – but achieving an average or below average grade for attainment. The homework and commitment grades reflect the effort the student is putting into their studies, and the attainment is their actual graded level that they have achieved.

Action: Julie to take the comments back to M Esau, Deputy Principal for Curriculum.

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