Thursday 06th November
Meeting of the Pupil Council — Minutes

Attendance

Nicole McCabe	Safa Haider Bhatti	Henry Leask
Ryan Williamson	Stephen Gallagher	Ellie Simpson
Shaun Craig	Louis Fairweather	Conor Haining
Mitchell Early	Humza Baig	Mr Downie
Ellis Rae	Matthew Burgoyne	Mrs Scullion
Oliver Simpson	Sarah Johnston	Mrs MacGregor
Alexander Ogilvie		

Apologies: Keiran Allan, Andrew Kenny, Chris O'May, Erin McKenzie

1.	Notes	Action
2.	<u>Weekly School Timetable</u> a) *2 minute breaks between periods without a lunch/break split* 90 minutes is a long time for a lesson and it becomes tedious. Some teachers already allow their pupils a small break between these double periods. The small break would most likely allow for more efficient learning. This issue will be looked at and suggested to staff. b) *Removal of broken double periods* This could be removed in the new timetable layout next session as detailed below. c) ***New timetable layout next session*** Due to budget cuts in the local authority, the number of teachers will be reduced over the coming years, however teaching time within schools must be maintained. The timetable will be changed to allow teachers to teach to the maximum amount their contract will allow them. The current proposal is 33 period week; with each period lasting 50 minutes, form lasting 10 minutes and lunch lasting 40 minutes however the duration for lunch is up for discussion. Each day will not be the same length, with 2 days in the week being 7 periods, and 3 days being 6 periods long. The start and end times will be affected during this change with the first bell ringing at 0845 and	The school is currently looking at new timetable proposals This will be implemented in 15/16 or 16/17. Can pupil reps now go round classes to find out what the pupils' opinions are about timetable changes.

	on 7 periods days the day will end at approximately 1540 and on 6 period days it will end at approximately 1455.	
3.	<u>Textbooks offered for sale by departments</u> It is understood that departments are under financial constraints. However, there is concern that some departments were selling textbooks, buying them back and would then sell them again for full price next year. There was also concern that this is happening without providing material for those who don't have textbooks. It was suggested that all departments should follow a deposit like system that some departments have in place.	No departments sell on any books and make a profit. Pupils should be able to take all courses without the need to purchase extra resources and we believe that this is the case. Many materials are now on Edmodo.
4.	<u>Uniform</u> a) Leggings A number of girls have said they would like to be able to wear leggings to school. The current uniform policy states that "Black Trousers" must be worn and thicker leggings are often acceptable however it creates a grey area of how thick leggings have to be. In the end it was decided that leggings would not become an addition to the uniform policy. b) Ties i. No ties Ties are just a part of the required uniform so it is highly unlikely that this will be removed. ii. Clip on ties These are already available from the office upon request but won't be available to all pupils. c) Just black shoes This is already implemented in the uniform policy that any shoes that are all black are allowed.	No change to current school policy. No change to current school policy. Now available from the school office.
5.	<u>School wi-fi</u> This is already in place in the school however legislation is stopping this from going ahead at the present time.	Due to Local Authority guidelines we are unable to offer pupils access to the school Wi-Fi.
6.	<u>Food</u> a) More pizzinis The kitchen is producing the maximum number they can at the present time but are also restricted in what they can sell due to the healthy living initiative. b) Milkshakes Can no longer be sold due to healthy living initiative. c) Larger portions of chips Cannot be implemented due to healthy living initiative. d) Lower prices for food Outside the schools control as the kitchen is run externally.	Mr Downie spoke to The Head of the Canteen and raised these issues.

	e) Popcorn maker Already existed but was removed due to low demand. f) Curly fries everyday Cannot be implemented due to healthy living initiative. g) Vending Machines h) Another Pasta King cart The kitchen staff are already looking into this issue i) Return of the fairtrade tuckshop Had to be removed due to the HMEI inspection.	
7.	<u>More efficient lunch queue system</u> It is difficult to make this system more efficient as it is but we are open to suggestions on how to improve this.	KA to discuss this with prefects.
8.	<u>Revision of one way system at the end of the day</u> There is currently no reason why this cannot be implemented. This issue will get looked at in more detail.	Agreed by BoS that the one way system would be changed at the end of the day to allow all stairs to be used
9.	<u>Fairness on the lifts</u>	Not discussed at the meeting as we ran out of time.
10.	<u>Bigger Laptops</u> More smaller laptops can be bought compared to fewer larger laptops. The trade off is small and more laptops are considered a greater advantage compared to the screen size. It is too expensive for departments which already have laptops to replaced these.	
11.	<u>Identity for houses</u> Support and enthusiasm for the house system is so low that most pupils don't care about their house. "Identity" wasn't explain in enough detail to enable a lot of discussion but it is assumed this might be things such as coloured badges.	
12.	<u>The material for senior PSE powerpoints</u>	Mr Downie discussed this with Pupil Support Department.
13.	<u>Arrival during anytime during form period</u> To be looked into but unlikely to be implemented for the entire school.	This proposal was discussed at BoS. This system has ran in other local High schools but was ultimately unsuccessful. It was felt that this would not be a positive move.
14	<u>Free bottled water</u>	

	5 water taps are provided throughout the school, bring a bottle and you're set.	
15.	Soap in the toilets The soap dispensers in both boys and girls toilets are vandalised, the janitors are currently waiting for parts to arrive to fix this but to continually fix this is an expensive issue. They seem to be damaged at the end of the day so a visible teacher presence near the toilet area may prevent vandalism.	Heavy duty cages to be discussed.
16.	Hairdryers	
17.	Phone charging area No suitable location for this and it is not secure. There would also be nobody available to man this.	
18.	Cloakroom There is currently no place to put a cloakroom, as well as nobody to run it and it is also open to vandalism and theft.	
	AOB a) School Hoodies Outside of the uniform policy b) Tea and Coffee The canteen did sell tea and coffee, this will be looked at again.	

Next meeting

The next meeting of the pupil council takes place on Friday the 5th of December during period 3 (10:45 - 11:30) in the conference room. Pupil council members will be meeting with form classes starting from the week beginning 24th of November. Should anybody have an issue that they would like raised at a pupil council meeting please see your pupil council representative.

Pupil council members are asked to ensure that the feedback they received from their form classes are given to Conor Haining in Room 122 (History) before the end of form on Wednesday the 3rd of December.