

Dollar Academy Parents' Association
Tuesday 12th March 2024

Minutes of The Meeting

Present:

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|--|-------------------------|
| ▪ Pam Corsar (Chairperson), | ▪ Gillian Hunt |
| ▪ Craig Anderson (Vice-chair) | ▪ Laura Crouch |
| ▪ Lorna Cameron (Secretary) | ▪ Nicholas Schellenberg |
| ▪ Marie Munday (Treasurer) | ▪ Roddy Urquhart |
| ▪ Sheena Gray (Preloved at Dollar Rep) | ▪ Shona Waddell |
| ▪ Oliver Pearce (Parent Governor) | ▪ Stephen Bradshaw |
| ▪ Robin Pyper (Deputy Rector) | ▪ Mark Bancroft |
| ▪ Angela King | ▪ Anja Siegert |
| ▪ Clare Johnstone | |

Apologies:

- Morven Caddell, Catriona MacDonald

Guests:

- Ian Munro (Rector)
- Graeme Morrison (Bursar)
- Rebecca McFarlane (Fundraising Manager)

1. Welcome and Introduction:

- Pam welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

- Minutes of the last meeting (23rd January 2024) were reviewed and accepted prior to the meeting this evening.

3. Actions from the last meeting:

Craig provided an update on actions from the last meeting with contribution from members:

- Lockers: Supplier and approach agreed to provide lockers which parents/pupils can rent with first ones due to be onsite in July ready for children returning in August. Cost is £33 per year. Locations identified at Dining Hall and opposite the Main Building.
- Issues in the Dining Hall in relation to charging errors. New staff have been given training. Good feedback on breakfasts.
- Most recent and approved actions and minutes to be added to the school website.
- Boarding – half term newsletter implemented for each Boarding House which has been welcomed by Boarders.

- Swimming – now have senior school swimming squad. Form 1 & 2 uptake.
- Preloved – bids received from departments. The Bursar and Mr Pyper to meet with Sheena.

4. Matters Arising / Agenda:

Finance:

- The Rector and Bursar attended to listen to the concerns from parents about the potential change in government and the potential impact of VAT on fees. All inefficiencies/opportunities being looked at to minimise potential fee increases. The Rector and Bursar have agreed to communicate updates on fee position to parents at the earliest opportunity.

FIDA:

- Mrs McFarlane provided an update on the FIDA Fundraising efforts and the campaign to 'close the roof'. Mrs McFarlane and the FIDA project will be grateful for any support provided by contacts/contractors to assist with the building in addition to fundraising.

Parental School survey:

- After last session's whole school survey, School to consider how and when to continue to capture feedback through parental surveys and the method/approach for achieving this as they deem appropriate.
- School and DAPA to work together to continue to shape coffee mornings or focus groups for parents to talk directly with the school and provide feedback.

Calendar of Events:

- All dates requiring DAPA Support to be finalised by 29th March 2024.
- DAPA members and supporters to volunteer and support events based on availability.
- Working party to be established to plan events, including arranging alcohol license.
- Financial plan to be established on how to fund certain aspects (such as strawberries, Prosecco, DAPA name badges).

Technology

- The school do not believe a blanket ban on mobile phones is necessary. Educating children on appropriate use is a much more world-ready approach as they will be living with unlimited access to phones when they leave school and so need to be able to demonstrate self-discipline.
- School to assist parents by issuing guidance for parents to help set consistent standards at home, if parents wish to use it.

Uniform:

- School continues to monitor adherence to uniform standards.
- School to reinforce school policy to help remove peer pressure for pupils altering uniform.

5. Updates:

Governors Report : Oliver Pearce

- No updates.

Preloved at Dollar Update : Sheena Gray

- £7,100 of funds to give to the school

6. AOB

Communication within DAPA working well using the Teams channel.

7. Date of next meeting:

- 30th April 2024 (Annual General meeting)

The meeting closed at 20:15

Membership:

- Pamela Corsar (on 2021, off 2024)
- Craig Anderson (on 2022, off 2025)
- Lorna Cameron (on 2020, off 2023)
- Marie Munday (on 2022, off 2025)
- Sheena Gray (on 2022, off 2025)
- Oli Pearce (on 2020, off 2023)
- Angela King (on 2022, off 2025)
- Morven Cadell (on 2020, off 2023)
- Clare Johnstone (TBC)
- Gillian Hunt (TBC)
- Laura Crouch (on 2022, off 2025)
- Nicholas Schellenberg (TBC)
- Roddy Urquhart (TBC)
- Catriona MacDonald (TBC)
- Shona Waddell (on 2021, off 2024)
- Stephen Bradshaw (TBC)
- Mark Bancroft (on 2021, off 2024)
- Anja Siegert (TBC)