

Parent Forum Meeting 14th October 2019 - Minutes

Attendees: Mr P Collin (PCC), Miss F Pattenden (FP), Mrs S Corner (SC), Miss A Ross (AR), Mr I West (IW), Mrs J West (JW), Ms L Hazell (LH), Mrs K Webster (KW), Mrs S Masimbe (SM)

1. Welcome & Refreshments (PCC)

Every parent forum there will be a different SLT attending each meeting. A chance for the forum to have a different voice.

2. Welcome to new members (PCC)

Welcomed 2 new members to the Forum, Miss Amy Ross and Mrs Sarah Corner.

3. Review of last meeting notes & agreed actions

PCC also thanked parents for attending open evening – heavy marketing to compete with other schools of perception.

Notes: agreed and signed

4. Open Day feedback from Parent Forum members

KW: handed out leaflets

SC: Talked to parents about their experience of being a parent at CAN

FP: Parents were commenting on the fact that it had changed, and it had changed their opinion.

PCC: last year 186 / this year 238 people through the door – so there was more

Open Day clashed with CNS and other schools, as there was no strategic planning across county – going forward this will happen as there is now a Headteachers forum.

FP: Could there be a half day where schools bring their Y5 and Y6 – so they can experience what a high school is like, without the influence of adults.

SC: known children who have wanted to come here, and their parents haven't brought them to open evening.

FP: Last year CNS held a science day on a Saturday .

PCC: we are doing this year as we have a Y5 stem day.

AR: An Ofsted report is judging a school on what the government want, not necessarily what the child wants.

PCC: a package of reputation that comes, and we have to actively turning this around

5. Celebrations

PCC: when it was taken over 19 months ago, it was in a poor state – falling roll, poor results, big debt – there is hardly any deficit, raised the results (they've never been consistent) have sustained results and kept behavior where it should be, staff have stayed. 157 Yr 7, 116 last year 97 year before

AR: how has the money been saved?

PCC: facilities and school services internal eg resources such as paper/printing, staffing cuts. There have been investments in the school structure, maths department, canopy, new computer rooms.

6. Allotment

PCC: spoke about the Allotment project and what we will be doing here.

Also in consultation with UEA about the woodland – outdoor learning.

It will be inclusive to all the community, all students and

Lots of needs across the school, has to be inclusive. It won't be just for children with special needs but will be completely inclusive.

Mo to send link to parent forum for allotment project and Papillon project

7. What does the Parent Forum want to achieve over this year?

8. Establishing a PTFA (Parent, Teacher and Friends) at CAN

SC – happy to be involved – doesn't want to lead

Events that have been lost like disco, family fun days

FP: events from Yr 7s so they can bond in a more social way eg. Halloween party

PCC: non classed based. Children in need dress day, Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner for all students in their houses – SLT serving. KS3 prom. French trip, Kenya Trip (12 or more for 2 weeks).

We don't do a mass thing for Halloween because a lot of faiths

PTFA do events to raise money for specific things, and or events through family fun day, bingo nights.

Establish an events programme for the year and fund raise for them

Could the rewards days for students, no – this year the 100 Club launched looks at everyone who has 100% attendance, high achievement points, they get a drop down day eg a half day to have a laugh, food.

SC: concerned about sick children and attendance – need to allow for children to have sick days.

SM: will keep her child home when he's sick

PCC: Enjoy, respect, achieve is for all children– for everything I the year group – last year 7 and 8 fire pit building

SC: student worries about attendance, and will come in if unwell

PCC: 100 Club is everyone 96 and above. We have to champion attendance, if you have a genuine reason, they can have the conversation with SLT.

Norfolk has the lowest attendance in the UK. Attendance this term has been the best it's ever been.

AR: Perhaps there are things we could do as a group to give children experiences,

PCC: Who is willing to be part of a PTFA – Chair or lead?

Parent notice board – where – and on the gateway app.

Fund raising for local charities –

Parents will get together on 4th November to talk about PTFA / fundraising etc.

AOB: Amy – make shopping bags out of scrap fabric – willing to come in and do a workshop.
Have any other parents got ideas.

PCC: Anyone you know who would be willing to come in and run a group (it would be run in UCAN) contact Mo.

SC: length of lunchtime

PCC: one of the reasons it was reduced was because students weren't socialized and there was bad behavior / kicking etc.

Agreed actions

Carry over next meeting

9. Standing items: Parent Forum newsletter

10. Community engagement – key question *'Since our last meeting have you spoken to any members of the community in a positive way about CAN?'*

What did you 'like, notice, wonder'. About this conversation

11. Feedback & Thoughts on...(PCC)

Next meeting: Monday 2nd December 2019 – 5.30pm