

School Council Thursday 11th May 2017 Minutes



Meeting commenced: 3.10pm
Present: Mr Holt, Head Chef Leon (Chartwells)
37 students attended the meeting.
Year 7 – 9
Year 8 – 8
Year 9 – 11
Year 10 – 8
Year 11 – 1 (Revision / extra lessons)

1. Dining Hall - Feedback on new menus.

The meeting was again attended by Leon, who oversees the catering at Wellington on behalf of Chartwells. He outlined how each meal on the new menu had been carefully designed to meet strict guidelines on nutrition and calories as well as avoiding many dietary intolerances. He asked for feedback on how the new menus had been received by students. The response was overwhelmingly positive. Students loved the way that food is now presented – much more professionally and ‘restaurant-style’ than previously. Leon explained that this had come at great expense but was certainly worth it.

Most students stated that they had tried something new in the past 3 weeks and all promised to continue to try new food rather than revert back to pizza! Leon explained that if this was to happen, and more students did the same, the kitchen could produce less pizza and therefore offer even greater variety.

Leon will bring some ‘tasters’ of new foods for students to try at the next meeting – this was met with a roar of approval from council members!

2. School Council meeting times – should we change them?

Mr Holt is currently organising next year’s school calendar and consulted SC members on the best time to schedule meetings. Due to the number of extra-curricular activities available to students, many Reps have been unable to attend all meetings this year so a vote was held as to whether to switch meetings. The alternatives were a change to lunch-times, after school on a day other than Thursday, during tutor time or keeping meetings as they are (half-termly on Thursdays where possible).

After much deliberation and discussion, the pros and cons of all times were considered. It was felt that despite some students being unable to attend all meetings, keeping meetings to Thursdays after school was the best option for most students.

3. Review of one-way systems around school

This item was nominated for discussion by several Reps from different year groups.

All students understood the reasons for having a one-way system in an old building which contains lots of people. However, a couple of points were made:

The first concern raised was that the system can sometimes mean unnecessarily long walks between subjects such as geography to history or maths to REP which in theory are next door to each other. Some students pointed out that they had the same problem but by explaining to their teacher that their next lesson was next door, the teacher now waited for the corridor to clear and then allowed them to go directly to their next lesson. Reps will ask teachers directly for their help with this when appropriate.

The main concern however, was that the walkway between Lynton and the astro can become very congested as hundreds of students walk between lessons. Occasionally there have been deliberate blockages as some students have waited on the walkway and caused a back-up behind them. This has made some students late to lessons and some younger students said that they had sometimes felt uncomfortable by the size of the crowds.

Mr Holt will raise this at the next Senior Leadership Team meeting and request that teaching staff accompany students on this particular route from Vale to Moss whenever possible.

4. Open Morning Volunteers

Open morning is on Saturday 24th June. Several students have already volunteered to help out with subject departments on the day. The remaining students (with the exception of 3 who are taking part in a charity 'colour-run' on the day) are all keen to get involved and help to escort parents and Y5 pupils around school. Letters will be available from Resources from next Monday and need to be signed and returned to Mrs Copeland as soon as possible. Reps are also encouraged to enlist other helpers from their tutor groups as we expect to be busy on the day!

5. 'Reports' to tutor / DoY / pastoral manager

We did not have time to discuss this item so it will be revisited at the next full council meeting.

Next full School Council meeting: Thursday 29th June 2017

Meeting closed at 4.15pm