

School Council Minutes

Thursday 4th October

2018



Meeting commenced: 3.10pm

Present: Mr Holt, Mrs Aden (Governor), Mrs Speed (Governor)

88 students attended the meeting.

Year 7 – 27

Year 8 – 18

Year 9 – 16

Year 10 – 17

Year 11 – 9

Year 12 - 1

1. Review of School Council 2017-2018

Oliver Donnelly (Year 12) reviewed the successes of the School Council for the year 2017-2018

- Involvement in many aspects of 80th anniversary celebrations which included:
 - Publicity
 - Hosting the afternoon tea party
 - Development of Wellyfest
- Consultation with staff from Chartwells caterers had taken place on two separate occasions during the year. Ongoing dialogue has seen new menus introduced and more 'theme-days' than ever before
- School Council organised and managed the Make Your Mark campaign
- Attendance at the Trafford Youth Cabinet at The Life Centre, Sale
- The Executive Committee took part in the Speaker's School Council Competition by raising the profile of mental health issues in young people. This included several students visiting the Trafford Youth Parliament and speaking in front of Council leaders.
- Feedback on the development of our new Behaviour for Learning policy and homework policy. Both are now far clearer for students to follow and understand.

2. School Council Objectives

Mr Holt explained the idea behind the School Council for the benefit of our new Year 7 attendees. As far as possible the agenda should be set by the pupils. It is expected that staff should play nothing more than a supporting role and that it is the pupils who should be proactive in leading change and driving improvement at Wellington School. The Council has a fabulous opportunity to influence the way in which school works and all pupils should be certain that their voice and opinions will be listened to.

3. Make Your Mark

The Executive Committee have organised a whole-school vote which is connected to the national Make Your Mark initiative.

Results were shared with students. In all, 1134 Wellington students voted and ballots were counted by the Executive Committee. Once again, Wellington School returned more votes than any other Trafford school. In a change from the past three years, 'A curriculum for life' was removed from top spot with the newly added Knife Crime receiving almost 1 in 4 votes. This will be discussed further at Executive and Council level.

The results for Wellington School are:

- 1. End knife crime (261 votes)**
 - 2. Equal pay for equal work (151 votes)**
 - 3. Proper funding for mental health services (148 votes)**
 - 4. End homelessness (143 votes)**
 - 5. A curriculum for life (123 votes)**
 - 6. End Period Poverty (119 votes)**
 - 7. Affordable public transport for young people (81 votes)**
 - 8. Votes for all 16 year olds (43 votes)**
 - 9. Welcome refugees (35 votes)**
 - 10. Support youth services (7 votes)**
- (23 spoiled papers)**

These will be added to the national vote and the winning issue will be debated in the House of Commons by MYPs and MPs.

The result will be shared in Tutor time and on the digital display screens and tutors will also share the Trafford and national results when they are made available.

4. Applying for a role with the Executive Committee

The School Council will be led and managed by an Executive Committee of up to 10 pupils. Their job will be to listen and report to their year group, to manage projects and to liaise with staff. Every student at Wellington School is welcome to apply for a role with the Executive Committee.

Those wishing to apply should write a letter which states why they believe they are a suitable candidate. Pupils will need the following qualities:

- Creativity
- Team working
- Organisation
- Commitment and loyalty
- Communication

Letters of application should be with Mr Holt by Friday 12th October.

5. Charity Work 2018-2019

While we are not aiming to match last year's incredible fund-raising efforts, the annual sponsored walk will be the main focus of our charity efforts this year. Much discussion was given to nominating a local charitable cause. Council Reps will speak to their tutor groups for ideas and then feed back to the Executive Committee. A short-list will be voted upon at the next full Council meeting. Some nominations from this meeting included:

- St Ann's Hospice
- Timperley Amateur Boxing Club
- Local Food Banks
- The Joshua Tree support centre
- 42nd Street
- Phoenix Futures

6. Wellyfest feedback

It was agreed that Wellyfest was a highlight of last year and students want to see it repeated this year. Ideas for improving the event included:

- A wet-weather plan
- An extra ice-cream van (to alleviate queues) and a selection of street food outlets rather than the school dining room. BBQ, candyfloss machine.
- Expand the inflatable zone as this was by far the most popular area
- Organise 'shifts' for people working on stalls and stands so that everyone can circulate
- Invite ex-students (Current Y11 particularly keen on this as they would like to return post-exams)
- A 'cinema' event in Adshead Hall
- Trampolines
- Nail salon
- Arts and crafts and a craft stall
- Make it longer! 3 hours not enough!
- Teacher vs student competitions (races, quiz, netball, dodgeball, football)
- Make-your-own slime zone!

Next full School Council meeting: Thursday 29th November

Meeting closed at 4.15pm