

School Council Minutes

Tuesday 4th October

2022



Meeting commenced: 3.10pm

Present: Mr Holt

49 students attended the meeting:

Year 7 – 14

Year 8 – 15

Year 9 – 8

Year 10 – 6

Year 11 – 6

1. School Council Objectives

Charlotte Codd and Hannah Birch (Year 11) spoke to the group about their time in School Council which stretched back to Year 7. They explained the idea behind the School Council for the benefit of our new Year 7 students.

Students were given examples of how the School Council, and student voice, at Wellington has had an impact over the past few years. The Eco-Council and Gender Equality Council are also places where students can voice their ideas and opinions.

2. Leon on the spot!

Leon Shorrock, Head Chef at Wellington, spoke to students about changes behind the scenes in the Dining Hall. He explained that even though the staff are the same as last year, the company which employs them has changed. He explained that he and his staff were very happy with the new set-up as they felt they have far more freedom to be creative. Leon was good enough to be 'grilled' for well over forty minutes by students and he certainly had an easier time than he has done in previous years. The main themes from discussions with students were:

- ALL students indicated that they had noticed a positive difference in the food and environment since last year. Many students were animated in their approval!
- ALL students stated that they felt there was a much wider variety of food since last year
- ALL students said that they had tried something new this year but wanted to make sure the variety of choice was maintained
- Students are delighted with the range of vegetarian and vegan choices – most students would like to see at least one day per week which is entirely meat-free
- Students love the new, creative way in which food is laid out and especially like the way food is easily identified by labelling on the glass counters – most students said this had encouraged them to try something new regularly

Leon did explain that the company is planning on creating an outdoor 'vending pod' which would alleviate queues at lunchtime, and also sell food at break time. This was met with complete approval and began to tackle some of the suggestions which students made...

- Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 would like the opportunity to buy snacks at break time
- A substantial number of students want to be able to purchase hot chocolate at lunch time as well as at breakfast time
- Requests for more theme days were made – look out for 'Nando's Day' on Thursday 10th November!

3. 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 14th October.

4. Sponsored Walk 2023

Our annual sponsored walk will be the main focus of our charity efforts once again this year. Some 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.

5. Chocolate raffle!

The chocolate raffle went down as well as always – why not come to the next meeting to be in with a chance?

Next full School Council meeting: Thursday 1st December

Meeting closed at 4.10pm