

**Minutes of the 141st School Council Meeting of KGV
Wednesday 25th November 2009 at 5:45 pm in Conference Room of SRC**

Present:

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| Council Members: | Paul Varty (PV) | Chairman |
| | Ed Wickins (EW) | Principal (Secretary) |
| | Heather Du Quesnay (HDQ) | ESF Representative |
| | Robert McRobbie (RM) | Community Representative |
| | Roger Nissim (RN) | Community Representative |
| | Prem Kumar (PK) | Community Representative |
| | Alex Chan (AC) | Community Representative |
| | Sarah Cook (SC) | PTSA Representative |
| | Kim Anderson (KA) | Parent elected Representative |
| | Michael Lintern-Smith (MLS) | Parent elected Representative |
| | Susan Sams (SS) | Parent elected Representative |
| | Deborah Eaglestone (DE) | Staff Representative |
| | David Grady (DG) | Staff Representative |
| | Paul Tattam (PT) | Staff Representative |
| | Ashley Tranter (AT) | Staff Representative |

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| In Attendance: | Eleanor Sackett | Chair of KGV Alumni |
| | Chris Mackreth | Vice Chair of KGV Alumni |
| | Peter Lau (PL) | Head Boy |
| | Charles Wang (CW) | President of Student Council |
| | Peggy Ng (PN) | Clerk |

Apologies: Justin Lo (JL) Support Staff Representative

Items

Action

KG 141.0 The Chairman opened the meeting by requesting the School Council to observe a one-minute silence to show a sign of respect for Michael Guilford who, after serving the KGV School Council for 36 years, passed away recently.

KG 141.1 **Apologies**

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Justin Lo, new Support Staff Representative.
- 1.2 The Chairman welcomed Susan Sams as the new Parent Elected Representative on board, and Eleanor Sackett and Chris Mackreth from KGV Alumni as guests to the meeting for the Alumni presentation.

KG 141.2 **Alumni Association Committee Presentation**

- 2.1 Eleanor Sackett thanked the Chairman and EW for the opportunity to speak to the School Council and give a presentation on the Alumni.
- 2.2 Chris Mackreth gave a presentation on the Alumni. School Council were pleased to know more about its history, mission, objectives, structure and organisation.
- 2.1 The Alumni seek to facilitate communication among alumni around the world, organise major reunions and special events, raise funds, promote special awards to worthy students and organise students support program. A Careers Evening for the students is organised and will take place on 26 November 2009. The PTSA has assisted in the arrangement.

| <u>Items</u> | <u>Action</u> |
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| 2.2 A paper of the recent events and initiatives organised by the KGV Alumni Association was tabled. PN to circulate to all members. | PN |
| 2.3 There was a question and answer session where matters on parental support, international connection, membership fee were raised. | |
| 2.4 EW will meet the Alumni in UK when he is in UK for ESF recruitment. He will give a presentation about the current school. School Council are asked to relay the message to those UK Alumni they know and asked them to sign up with Cindy Lam in the general office. This event is advertised in the Alumni newsletter and through a facebook group and blog being established. | |
| 2.5 The Chairman thanked Eleanor and Chris for the presentation. They then left the meeting. | |
| KG 141.3 <u>Minutes of the 140th Meeting held on 23rd September 2009 (SC/0910/MM1)</u> | |
| 3.1 There was no comment on the minutes of the 140 th meeting held on 23 rd September 2009, which were taken as approved. | |
| KG 141.4 <u>Matters arising from the Minutes</u> | |
| All matters arising for action were dealt with. | |
| KG 141.5 <u>Principal Report (SC/0910/2/1)</u> | |
| 5.1 Council received the report noted above. EW briefed the meeting. | |
| 5.2 CIS/WASC CIS/WASC Visiting Team is visiting KGV in March. They will be invited to a social event to meet with the staff and School Council on Sunday 7 th March. More details to come out. EW requested the Council to read the School Council handbook beforehand. | All All |
| EW tabled a School Council Self-Evaluation form. Council are asked to complete and return the form to Peggy by 5 th December 2009. Council are advised to also reflect on whether they feel properly engaged with the education process within the school. | All |
| The Complaint Procedures will need to be updated and the parent reps are requested to help and comment from the parents' viewpoint. | KA / SC / MLS / SS |
| 5.3 KGV Annual Report to ESF A KGV annual report printout was shared with School Council. A full colour version will be published and sent to Council, parents and students later. | |

| <u>Items</u> | <u>Action</u> |
|---|---------------|
| 5.4 Curriculum and School Day There was a general discussion on the Y9 language options. Parent Representatives suggested that an IB Diploma information booklet be included in the information pack for all new parents. | EW |
| School Council was in general in favour of the new school day proposal. There was a concern about the late lunchtime and the student reps took the views that it is more effective to have only one lesson after lunch time. EW to take the concerns to the Leadership Team again. There was also a concern about the tutoring time and views from student reps were also asked for. The new school day will take effect from next School Year. | EW |
| The school will evaluate the impact of these decisions during 2010/2011. | |
| 5.5 School Council were encouraged to attend the Christmas Carol, Carol Concert and Evening of Music and Dance. | |
| KG 141.6 <u>PTSA Chairman's Report (SC/0910/2/2)</u> | |
| 6.1 Council received the reports noted above. SC briefed the meeting. | |
| 6.2 PTSA Night Market raffle prizes – SC solicited donations from School Council or any connections with School Council. | All |
| 6.3 PTSA is liaising with the MTR to set up Octopus in PTSA shop. The cost is about HK\$50,000. | All |
| 6.4 The set of accounts is not yet finalised. The finalised accounts will be presented to the PTSA meeting in January 2010. | |
| KG 141.7 <u>ESF Report – Latest Report dated 12th October 2009 (SC/0910/2/3)</u> | |
| 7.1 Council received the reports noted above. | |
| 7.2 HDQ briefed the meeting. This report is not quite up to date and HDQ highlighted the issue of the higher education destinations, the Continued Professional Development and the online admission applications. | |
| KG 141.8 <u>Reports of Sub-Committees</u> | |
| 8.1 Staffing Sub-Committee (SC/0910/2/4) | |
| Council received the report noted above. PT briefed the Council. | |
| Council noted the issue of the role of the staffroom committee and the different ways staff can share their views. | |
| Parent Reps recapped the issue of student involvement in the interview process. With the interviewing seasons coming EW to follow up. | EW |

Items

Action

8.2 Premises Sub-committee (SC/0910/2/5)

Council received the report noted above. RN briefed the Council.

HDQ said that the bid for funding for KJS will be submitted again for central government consideration in January, and it was unlikely that any funding would be available for KGV.

In order to be able to provide for the sustainable redevelopment of ESF schools and facilities, a long term ESF capital funding strategy is being developed. ESF will make an announcement on Thursday about this strategy which will take effect from 2011.

The Committee is now progressing on the Alterations and Amendments with the Architects. There will be another meeting before Christmas.

8.3 Finance Sub-committee (SC/0910/2/6)

Council received the report noted above. AC briefed the Council on the last year actual, 09/10 budget and fundraising. The Committee will follow up about how the carry forwards be invested. A fundraising meeting to be arranged for PV / AC / EW and Colleen. More ideas will be shared in the next meeting. AC requested the Council to email him or Peggy if anyone had any experience in fundraising campaigns.

EW

All

8.4 Curriculum Sub-committee (SC/0910/2/7)

Council received the report noted above. PK briefed the meeting. There was a general discussion on the university destination pattern. EW briefly explained the reason for the extra funding for the Higher Education department and the role of the Higher Education Counsellor.

With the differences in college entries and changed destination pattern the Chairman suggested that the item "HE Guidance Update" be kept in the agenda for the next Sub-committee meeting.

PK / EW

Council wondered whether some central information on overseas university home status can be made available for parents. EW to look at the possibility of this.

EW

8.5 Student Reps Report

Student reps noted and welcomed developments in the higher education department.

Items**Action**KG 141.9 **Chairman's Business**

- 9.1 Confidential Item – the renewal of the Principal's contract Approvals from School Council are needed for the renewal of EW's contract. The Chairman has dealt with this issue by asking the Council to respond via email circulation. All Council members are in favour of his contract renewal. The message has been passed to ESF. The Principal will be offered a new 2 year contract.
- 9.2 Speech Day last week was excellent and the Chairman publicly praised and thanked Arnett Edwards for all his work.

KG 141.10 **Any Other Business**

- 10.1 Healthy School
KA shared her initiative of establishing a healthy school, in terms of students' well-being in all aspects. A Well-being Committee may form as a result of a meeting with Sarah Howling, Vice Principal and Colleen Melvin who are also keen to look at this. It is hoped that there will be more involvements from parents, students and staff. There will be another meeting tomorrow.
- 10.2 MIKA, a pop star is coming to KGV tomorrow. A group of Advanced Diploma students have been working with him for some PR work. There is a big mural painted by the students. He is coming to have a look at the painting and talk to our students. EW praised Fred Croft and Kate Hodgson, particularly Kate, who have done much work on this.
- 10.3 Student Reps restated their concern about SAT provision. EW to follow up. EW
- 10.4 It is suggested that Council's contacts be properly listed in the KGV Annual Report rather than asking parents to send emails to office@kgv.edu.hk. EW took this on board.
- 10.4 A copy of the membership list was tabled.

KG 141.11 **Date of next Meeting**

- 11.1 The date of next meeting is scheduled for 10th March 2010 in the Sarah Roe Centre Conference Room at 6:00 pm. All

The meeting ended at 7:58 pm.

Peggy Ng
Clerk to School Council