

**Minutes of the 138<sup>th</sup> School Council Meeting of KGV  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at 6:00 pm in Conference Room of SRC**

**Present:**

|                  |                             |                               |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Council Members: | Paul Varty (PV)             | Chairman                      |
|                  | Ed Wickins (EW)             | Principal (Secretary)         |
|                  | Andrew Sortwell (AS)        | ESF Representative            |
|                  | Robert McRobbie (RM)        | Community Representative      |
|                  | Roger Nissim (RN)           | Community Representative      |
|                  | Sarah Cook (SC)             | PTSA Representative           |
|                  | Kim Anderson (KA)           | Parent elected Representative |
|                  | Catherine Chan (CC)         | Parent elected Representative |
|                  | Michael Lintern-Smith (MLS) | Parent elected Representative |
|                  | Ashley Tranter (AT)         | Staff Representative          |
|                  | David Grady (DG)            | Staff Representative          |
|                  | Joy Man (JM)                | Support Staff Representative  |

|                |                    |                                   |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| In Attendance: | Sarah Howling (SH) | Vice Principal                    |
|                | Connie Hu (CH)     | Staff Representative              |
|                | Marcus Chiu (MC)   | President of Student Council      |
|                | Adrian So (ADS)    | Vice President of Student Council |
|                | Peggy Ng (PN)      | Clerk                             |

|                   |                         |                          |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Apologies:</b> | Simon Tsang (ST)        | Community Representative |
|                   | Deborah Eaglestone (DE) | Staff Representative     |

**Items**

**Action**

KG 138.1 **Apologies**

- 1.1 Apologies were received from ST and DE.
- 1.2 The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Connie Hu as a Teacher Rep\* to replace Geoff Wheeler who has resigned from School Council to her first Council Meeting, and Sarah Howling as guest to the meeting.  
  
\* NB: A selection procedure is in place to elect a replacement. Connie Hu has not yet been formally elected.

KG 138.2 **Minutes of the 137<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008 (SC/0809/MM2)**

- 2.1 The word 'Employment' on line 6 of page 5 should read as 'Equal'.
- 2.2 The Minutes of the 137<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008 were approved after noting the clarification in 2.1 above.

KG 138.3 **Matters arising from the Minutes**

- 3.1 Photographs for School Council members were just taken and PN to follow up on the identification cards for School Council. PN
- 3.2 Summary of insurance programme was distributed.
- 3.3 Exclusion and Complaints Policies are to be published on the website. PN to follow up. PN
- 3.3 LSC report and Heather's feedback were distributed to Council.

| <u>Items</u>   | <u>Action</u> |
|--|---------------|
| 3.4 Chinese Curriculum – to invite Ita Lam to the next School Council meeting.   | EW            |
| 3.5 KGV Higher Education destinations – EW to chase up for the information.  | EW            |
| 3.6 Dinner with Michael Guilford – to sort out another date for a few core people who can definitely do it and invitation will be sent to other Council members. | PN            |

KG 138.4 **Principal Report (SC/0809/3/1)**

4.1 Council received the report noted above.

4.2 Sarah Howling as Vice Principal presented a report on 1:1 Learning Technology (student laptops).

The Learning Technology Group is the committee charged with the implementation of the KGV 1 to 1 learning programme. The introduction of laptops to students is on schedule in August this year (8) and in January 2010 (Y7) respectively.

There were areas of concern such as security, teaching and learning, technical, cost and funding, parent support and teaching training, which were all taken into consideration by the committee. There was a Parent Meeting Presentation held in January which was well attended by 200 parents.

EW paid public tribute to Sarah Howling and her team for the work done on this and the quality of questions and answers for the parents evening was excellent.

4.3 SEN (Special Education Needs) Policy  
It is a school based decision about how much money to allocate to SEN and there is no additional funding from ESF. The overall formula is supposed to be significant enough to be able to manage that.

The parents are positive about the policy. It is mostly the result of the way forward group that Carol Saunders and Jane Angwin have led.

This is a two year policy which will be reviewed and brought back to Council for further update and rectification. A group that might involve some School Council members may be set up to formally monitor and review it.

Council had no further comments and approved the Policy.

**Items**

**Action**

4.4 CIS/WASC

EW went through the modifications of the Vision Statement document. Council recommended that parental relationship should be included. Council approved this document subject to the addition of the mention of parental partnership. This final approved version will be published on the website.

PN

In March 2010 when the CIS/WASC visits the school, Council members are expected to know this Vision Statement document.

Good progress has been made and EW thanked the Council members for their input.

EW is going to Tokyo visiting an American School there as a member of a visiting team and will be able to get a direct experience of such a visit so that KGV can be better prepared for the CIS/WASC visit in March 2010.

4.5 11-16 Curriculum

EW explained the models and the principles behind them. The earliest that the new curriculum can be implemented will be 2010. There will be a wider debate across KGV staff. Hopefully the draft proposal including the results of the debate can be brought back to the Council for consideration in May 2009.

EW

There are lots of concerns about SATs. Students expressed that they are not always guaranteed for a place to take the test in the SATS centre. EW to raise the issue to Arnett Edwards. AS to feedback to ESF to find out the possibility of the provision of a SATs centre at KGV. AS to raise to ESL regarding offer of SAT courses.

EW  
AS

KG 138.5 **PTSA Chairman Report (SC/0809/3/2)**

5.1 Council received the report noted above.

5.2 Council are welcome to come in and support the School's Night Market on 6 March 2009.

KG 138.6 **ESF Reports – Latest Report dated 9<sup>th</sup> February 2009 (SC/0809/3/3)**

6.1 Council received the reports noted above. AS briefed the reports.

6.2 There is a concern that Y9 students dropping Mandarin after 9 years of study of Mandarin get no recognition. AS to see whether it is possible that ESF will issue any certificates.

AS

6.3 There was a general discussion on the issue of lack of time for Y11 students to choose IB subjects.

**Items**

**Action**

KG 138.7

**Reports of Sub-Committees**

**7.1 ESF Diploma Sub-Committee (SC/0809/3/4)**

Council received the report noted above. The role of the Sub-committee group may terminate after the first meeting of the next academic year when an analysis of the IB Examination results comes out. The decision to terminate or not will be left with the Sub-committee.

**7.2 Staffing Sub-committee (SC/0809/3/5)**

Council received the report noted above.

The process of internal promotions involves School Council members in order to get independent opinions. Parent reps suggested that students be involved in the process as well. Recognising the sensitivity and the power of the students' voice the Sub-committee group could think about how we could involve students more in the process.

**7.3 Premises Sub-committee (SC/0809/1/7)**

Council received the report noted above. RN briefed the meeting on the progress of the redevelopment and summer works.

Summer works

The major addition and alteration works will be done at the earliest by summer 2012 and we should not have to wait until this date for planned redecoration of Peel Block.

Lift Access

There is a concern on the issue of lift access. This is scheduled to happen in summer. PV to follow up with John Stewart whether this can be done at Easter.

PV

Shades on the field

ESF advised that the putting of shades up on the field would be compromised because of issues with the boundary slope. PV to follow up.

PV

**7.4 Finance Sub-committee (SC/0809/3/7)**

Council received the report noted above.

Council noted a typo on the paper that MLS was present but his name was missing on the 'Present' list.

A meeting between MLS and the Peace Memorial Scholarship trustee is to be set up.

PN

**Items**

**Action**

**7.5 Student Reps Report**

Student reps gave a verbal report. Different areas covered included:

- Theft problems despite having CCTV cameras in school.
- Lack of printing resources – there is only a low quality printer for students. EW said that this was already looked at and student reps can check it out with Ms Colleen Melvin.
- Congestion problem – SSC is packed.
- Student Council now include Y11, Y12 and Y13 where core council include Y12s and Y13s, and Y11s handle form reps.
- Student Council do have the chance to meet with the Senior School management team to give feedback on issues such as IB and Healthy Eating.

**KG 138.8 Chairman's Business**

8.1 There was no Chairman's business.

**KG 138.9 Any Other Business**

9.1 The Chairman noted an issue which was raised by JM regarding the support staff staffing. This issue has been referred to Keith Tucker and is being dealt with by the School and ESF. There will not be a discussion on this by Council at this moment.

9.2 Parent reps are very impressed with the weekly Middle School Newsletter and Senior School Newsletter sent to parents. The contents are very informative. EW welcomed parents' feedback and asked the Parent Reps to monitor this and let him know if standards are dropping in 6 months' time.

9.3 There is a concern that Sports Day being a major event in school was not attended by the whole school. The date clashing with exams is also another problem. EW to bring the issue back and discuss with the SLT.

EW

**KG 138.10 Date of Next Meeting**

10.1 The date of next meeting is scheduled for **3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009** in the **Sarah Roe Centre Conference Room at 6:00 pm.**

All

The meeting ended at 8:06 pm.

Peggy Ng  
Clerk to School Council