

Minutes of Student Voice Meeting 1

8th February 2010 – P2 – Library.

Present: Annabelle Williams (12), David Freeman (12), Rob Jones (11), Ophelia Xerri (11), Nicole King (10), Issy Godfrey (10), Tom Wilding (9), Georgia Gwillim (9), Ben Davies (8), James Evans (8), Will Davies King (7), Danielle Smith (7), Mr Goodard, Mrs Jones, Miss Duke.

Absent: none

1. Welcome and thanks to everyone for attending.
2. Introductions and expectations:
Miss Duke introduced herself to everybody and explained that she is the new Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for leading our School Council. Mr. Goddard is Head of Sixth Form and he will be leading the Council also and Mrs. Jones is the School Governor with a link to the School Council.

Students introduced themselves.
3. Expectations:
Everybody's voice on the Student Council will be heard. It is also vital that the members of each year group ensure that the concerns and ideas from their year group are represented.
All members will lead meetings with their Year Representatives to ask for opinions on the subjects we discuss. It is hoped that the Student Council will gain more importance and have play a large part in everything that happens in school.
4. Election of new posts:
In future the Chair and Vice will prepare the agenda, distribute to members a week before meetings and lead the meetings. The secretary will take minutes and distribute after typing up.
Annabel, Danielle, Rob and Ophelia said they were willing to stand for the vacant posts. Each spoke to the full Council, giving details about why they should be voted to the posts. The outcome:

Chairperson	Ophelia Xerri – Year 11
Vice Chairperson:	Robert Jones - Year 11.
Secretary :	Will Davies-King – Year 7.

(When Year 11 leave for study leave, Annabel & Danielle will take over the Chair and Vice position) temporarily.

The Chair and Vice will lead the year group meetings.

The secretary will take year group minutes.

An agenda must be prepared listing all items to be discussed.

Heads of year should be informed and invited to attend.

The Form Reps will then return to the main School Council with their opinions/discussions and outcomes.

5. New Name for the group.
Suggestions for a new name for the Student Council were requested and voted upon. Suggestions were:
School Council
Student Voice
VOC
Choice
CSV
CSSC.

After voting it was decided that the group will now be called **Student Voice**.

6. Recognition.
Mr Goddard asked the group what kind of recognition they would like as evidence that they are members of Student Voice. Suggestions were badges/ties/wristbands. The students voted for wristbands with Student Voice written on the outside.

It was also decided that they be given the choice of:

Early Lunch Passes; or
Library Computer Passes.

This will be arranged.

7. Future Topics
In the future we will discuss:
Canteen (including visits from the staff) re: what we like / dislike / want
Rewards
Wet rooms and eating areas.

8. The next meeting will be Tues, 9th February 2010 P2 in the library.
MCC are attending to talk about their proposal to build one new school in Monmouthshire – but that they need help deciding which venue to choose. They will be attending to show the School Voice photographs of their new ideas and getting opinions from our School Voice members on what we think are important issues.

The Student Voice members were asked to complete a questionnaire sent by MCC regarding their plans:

Q1: Year 13 students on their last day a few years ago put fish in the ceiling tiles and bird seeds on cars.

Q2: Better and faster technology
Good teacher / student ratios.
Colourful and bright buildings, using glass.
Better quality toilet facilities / floors / heating etc.
Separate blocks for faculties, and/or age groups.
Separate sixth form facilities.
Better facilities for drama : theatre with raised seating.
Wider corridors / one way systems to avoid bottle necks.
Indoor lunch areas – better eating facilities.
Better lockers.
Separate examination block.
More subject opportunities : German / Spanish / Photography / Graphics.
PE areas grouped all together and not spread around school.
Leisure Centre that is not joined to the school.

Q3: Contemporary:
Sydney Opera House,
Beijing Bird's Nest,
Bull Ring, Birmingham.
Historical:
Cathedral in Barcelona.
Chepstow Castle.

Q4: Good view from the Biology classes over the River.
The Diamonds is the heart of the school