

The Kingsway Association

Winter Term Meeting 24th Jan 2022
Online Meeting

Present:

Staff - Jo Lowe, Louise Wildgoose, Katherine Heard, D Wood

Parents - Shaun Holdom, Susie Metcalfe, Suzanne Courtney, Vic Holmes, Sarah Holmes, Kate Rowbottom

Students – Charlie Lawton & Tanzeela Choudhury

Apologies: None

o **Finances** (Balance as 24th Jan 2022)

- £8928.77 in the current account
- £5390.56 in the reserve account

There are 3 outstanding invoices which totalled £3693.82, **Suzanne** will take the cheque to School reception tomorrow.

This leaves us with a balance (after the cheque has been paid) of £10,625.39

o **Bids** –

- **Whole School outdoor space** – The meeting started with an excellent presentation from the two senior students (Charlie and Tanzeela). They have put together a bid for improving the outdoor space on both campuses and making it more useable all year round. They highlighted specific areas which could use canopies and benches on both sites. They submitted a breakdown of prices for benches and canopies. The total bid for both campuses totalled £38,526. It was **AGREED in principal** that TKA would fund the 8 benches (seating 8 people) for Broadway at the cost of approx £4,872. **Shaun** was happy to go away and look into the costs and also consider sponsorship and possibly crowdfunding for the remainder of the project. We all agreed that it was something that needs to be done and very keen to help kickstart the project with funding from TKA, especially as it's come directly from the students and they have clearly put a lot of research into the equipment. There was also a brief discussion as to whether the project could be tied in with the Queen's Jubilee year? It is certainly going to have to be a phased project given the amount of money involved.
- **Inclusion and Diversity dept** - £260 to run the Motor Skills United Intervention, helping to develop motor and perceptual skills which impacts their learning and handwriting. **AGREED**
- **Science dept** -£184.40 for 2 renewable energy kits to enable teachers to better demonstrate how renewable energy resources generate electricity. **AGREED**
- **Geography dept** - £360 for equipment for fieldtrips (due to restart this academic year). Tape measures, metre rule sticks and stopwatches. They have previously been hired

from Peak District Learning team who ran the visits, but now school can run their own, helping keep costs down for parents. **AGREED**

- **Inclusion and Diversity Dept** - £150 for sports equipment such as basketball hoop, badminton set, skittles and other small sports equipment. Used for the students who work/access B11 when they are heightened or as a reward after engaging and working well. **AGREED**
- **Inclusion and Diversity Dept** - £1,500 to initially set up a sensory room for children with autism (or being assessed) and then additional fundraising could also be considered to enhance the room further. This bid was also submitted with a supporting letter from the Autism Intervention Worker at Stockport Family. The room would provide a sensory safe space for students to use when demands of the school day are becoming overwhelming. It was agreed that this would be a hugely positive addition to the school and that most of the funding should come from the school. So TKS will fund the requested £1,500 and TKA **AGREED to give £500** in additional funds to enhance the room.

o **Updates from previous meeting in Sept 2021 –**

- **Counselling room** – Still on hold due to COVID and ability to get a team together to co-ordinate the upgrade. Still a project that we are all keen to get sorted but some logistics of moving equipment need to be looked into.
- **Parent Pay** – it was agreed at the last meeting about using PP for parents to be able to give on a regular basis (£10 per quarter, per family) to TKA. This is in progress and will hopefully be live very soon.
- **Cricut machine** – 2 were requested from 2 different departments. After discussing with both departments, it was agreed that 1 can be shared. This has been purchased and delivered to school.

o **Updates from the Head –**

- Covid is still very high on the agenda. Students have been given 2nd vaccine in school. Staff illness was very high the first week back after Christmas.
- Mask wearing is no longer required in classrooms but still some confusion with students as to when they are required.
- Yr9s are starting to choose their Options for GCSE but not able to have the face to face discussions with staff and parents so videos are being supplied.
- A new Head of Technology has just started and moving towards more engineering courses which are well received.
- 2 football trips to St George's Park have gone ahead, thoroughly enjoyed by the Yr8 boys and Yr10 & 11 boys.
- Hopefully more school trips will happen over the rest of the current school year.
- The new Behaviour policy is in situ and have recently been focussing on lateness and uniform, staggering the relevant points in the policy.
- Breaktimes have continued to be a challenging time. This week has seen the start of trialling having the gates between the campuses open during break 2 to allow movement of students so that they can be with their friendship groups. It will be assessed at half term.
- New software is being installed which may help with some current issues with the canteen and hopefully address the occasional issue of Broadway running low on food and Foxland having plenty. It will hopefully mean that the students can pre-order their food – this will also help reduce food waste. Student Council do meet with the catering

staff once a term to discuss how things are going with both canteens. School are keen to re-establish 'Pods in the Quad' but not able to at the moment due to the lack of staff.

- Positive feedback from parents and staff with regards the online Parents Evening sessions. The way forward?
- New BTEC courses was discussed, this area is being constantly reviewed but needs to have full staff support and cover. The IMedia BTEC course is no longer supported by the exam board, this is being replaced by Creative Media BTEC. Other BTEC's available at TKS are – Engineering, Travel & Tourism, Health & Social Care and Dance & Drama. Looking into the possibility of Childcare too.
- Yr11 mocks results are very pleasing. There will be 2 more sets of Pre Public exams before the actual GCSEs hopefully start in May. The Government have requested 3 sets of exam results incase Teacher Assessed results are required again.

Next meeting – Mon 9th May 2022

(Meetings will be 6pm, if online or in person will be decided nearer the time)