

**Summary Report of the Discovery College School Council
Thursday 20 February 2014**

Present: Marcello De Guisa, Alfred Wong, Elspeth Shaw, Ernest Lin, Frederic Guiral, Jason Edwards, Kimberly Whiley, Maggie Hinch, Mark Beach, Pat Romano, Robert Chaytor, Vivian Cheung

Apologies: Charles Wong

1. ESF Board Report of 29 January 2014

A presentation on the annual pay and fees horizon scanning was given, showing the budgeting process for 2014 onwards. This included the enrolment level across ESF schools, which is close to 100%, key factors and CPI indicators and pay indicators in the market, as well as new initiatives. The pay indicators for 2013 were explained but it was pointed out that at this point in time there is no clear indicator for ESF pay in order to track ESF's competitiveness, but this will be available within the coming weeks.

2. Finance & Property subcommittee

The Profit and Loss Accounts to 31 August 2013 were approved.

There are five tenders that are in need of renewing for 2014/15:

- CCTV & public address system
- Fume cupboards
- Smart card system
- Lift system
- Building management system

In all cases the Finance & Property subcommittee has gone with the lowest tenderer, with the exception of the BMS tender, where the company is the sole original supplier of the existing school system.

3. Staff Recruitment, Appointment, Growth and Wellbeing subcommittee

The number of staff leaving this year is higher than previous year, mostly due to personal reasons as well as a number of longer-serving staff deciding to move on.

The College Professional Development teams will be requested to attend the next subcommittee meeting in order for the members to gain a better understanding of how CPD budgets, options and effectiveness are gauged.

4. Student Learning & Welfare subcommittee

This subcommittee heard from Brian McCann, the VP/Diploma Coordinator, who explained the core and elective components that make up the IB Diploma Programme, and outlined the requirements for students to successfully complete the IB Diploma. Furthermore, the requirements for students to be awarded a Bi-lingual Diploma were presented.

The Student Learning and Welfare subcommittee will next meet with the Higher Educational Counsellor to discuss university processes for DC students.

5. Principal's Report

Our Y13 students have the last 'official' school day at the end of this term, prior to their Diploma exams starting after the Easter holidays. Many of them have already received some exceptional university offers for next year, including the University of Oxford and several students with full or partial scholarships. This should give great comfort to our parent community who has placed such trust in DC to prepare their children for study and life beyond school.

6. AOB

The ESF Board has approved the inclusion of the DC School Council Chair on the ESL Members Committee. This will finally give DC representation at a strategic level within ESF/ESL.

DC has been awarded CIS Accreditation. The WASC report is still to come. The Principal will share the CIS Summary Report with parent community.

A lengthy discussion was held around models for future DC fees and NBL. ESF CFO presented a detailed report to the Council members that included 4 possible options:

- Option 1: Extension of operational breakeven by 2 years to 2019-20
- Option 2: Extension of DOA from 25 to 30 years while extending operational breakeven to 2019-20
- Option 3: Delay DOA principal interest payments until breakeven
- Option 4: Waive interest element of DOA until principal has been paid