

Multi Schools Council Minutes

19th April 2013

Attended

Colchester Academy

Market Field

Broomgrove

Hazelmeare

10:15am

It was great to start the meeting with more schools this time. We started by introducing ourselves and moved straight onto a recap about the last meeting. I spoke about how we discussed to get our work off the ground the council wanted media involvement and that the minutes from this meeting would be given to Colchester gazette to get a piece in the paper for us about our work. I also spoke about how Bernard Jenkin our local mp has agreed to help us and we hope he can do this by delivering a letter to Mr Cameron about our ideas on including something in the national curriculum that educates children about disabilities and learning difficulties.

10:20am

We then went on to speak about what types of things we would like in a letter and how as a council we would get the governments attention. There were lots of brilliant ideas including a special fair where all the schools involved in this council were invited too, involving the local community and celebrating equality and ability. The council also asked about having more central sports facilities that could be shared between schools were schools could work collaboratively together creating links. They also wanted to influence the government by showing them how a fair like this could be so rewarding and look at introducing a 'community' or 'all the same day' that is celebrated across every school each school year for a specific week. They said they felt this was important to carry on the work of the council so that is not just seen as a one day event. All of this information will be included into a letter that will be given to David Cameron. The final point came from alfie from market field school who said half the problem about some peoples negative views about disability schools is the way it is named, he asked why we call schools like ourselves special schools?! Why not schools for all or specialist communication schools or collages, this will also be part of the letter.

10:45am

We then spoke about setting 3 main goals for the council to achieve by the summer of 2013. After a long discussion about the different ideas the children had, we came up with 3 main goals:

- For a multi schools council film to be made so that every school that was part of the council could go back and give feedback through a whole school assembly about what we are doing.
- To have set up and experienced some child swaps between different schools before the summer holidays
- For more people to know about disabilities; through the community sport and fair day involving the media and government support

We will achieve these by the summer of 2013.

An idea we wish to hold on for the future is for other schools to be educated on the way the different ways that people can communicate with each other through sign language and other forms of communication.

11:00am

Our final point was to talk about what other schools the children would like to be involved with the council, this is the list the council and teachers came up with:

- Mill Fields
- The Gilberd
- Cerby Cross
- Clacton Costal Acd
- Colne Community
- Mile end Primary
- Lexden Springs
- Brinkley Grove
- St Andrews
- Parsons Heath
- St Benedicts
- Stanway Villa
- A boarding school
- Colchester Grammer
- Stanway five ways primary

It was then discussed that the plan was to get the contact details of all of the schools and contact them, if by any chance we are unable to contact the schools the name of these schools will be passed on by myself to the council and as a group of schools we will

arrange visits to the different schools to encourage head teachers to join the council. I finished the meeting as I always do by picking a start of the meeting and this time it went to Tiffany from Colchester Academy for her delivery on some really crucial and understanding points.

The next meeting will be in the month of May.