**Minutes**

**Multi Schools Council Meeting MID Secondary**

**23rd May 2023**

**In Attendance**

Chelmer Valley

Thriftwood

Beaulieu Park

**Apologies**

Alec Hunter

**Minutes**

Thank you so much to Chelmer Valley for hosting last minute, much appreciated! I apologise to Beaulieu Park for being sent elsewhere but thank you so much for still coming!

To kick off the meeting, we introduced ourselves and played games as a warmup. Then we watched the video about deaf awareness based on the feedback we’ve had just before Christmas term. They all found it useful especially now they know they would do if they bumped or see a deaf person. They have said they would like to have sign language assemblies, to have sign of the week, to learn sign language in tutor time or in life skills.

We then talked about behaviour, what is good and what is bad and what else can be done to improve behaviour in their schools and the responses I’ve received were brilliant, lots of great opinions and ideas! They talked about how behaviour is worse outside than inside (in a good way as they get freedom and a break from learning in classroom), behaviour is usually worse when there is a substitute teacher (they should know the policy beforehand and to give out detentions/ merits). One school get to have practical lessons, which means they can move around a lot, they get five minutes time out, fidget toys, sensory toys, an opportunity to talk to an adult, zones of regulation and finally, they have a punching bag (which proves to be helpful!). As well as encouraging engagement in class via house points or prizes, there should be harsher detentions or help the community (litter picking) as part of the detention.

Then it was break! Lots of yummy snacks!

we returned from break, and cracked on with discussing about global warming and how adults or the communities could be doing more to help and once again, lots of great ideas:

* Make sure the appliances are energy efficient, so they don’t waste electricity.
* Ensure we are recycling correctly as well as all councils should provide different bins to recycle plastic, glass, etc separately rather than together.
* To use electric cars, however they are expensive and there is not a lot of places to charge.
* To walk and cycle if possible, instead of driving so it doesn’t pollute the air and it would be cheaper than buying electric cars.
* To eat less meat and food that is not imported.
* Adults need to be shocked as the young people don’t feel like they are taking it seriously.
* To use less plastic.
* To reuse the bottles, to turn them into plants and we get to learn how to look after plants as well as reusing bottles!
* To litter pick as part of the detentions.

Lastly on the agenda, I asked the young people what they would like to see come up on the agenda, lots of great ideas!

* Career/ jobs prospect (to support young people)
* Animal cruelty
* Stereotypes
* Gender inequality
* Uniform policies
* Cultural awareness
* Arts, drama, and music (how we can keep that going)
* To have more practical lessons (how can we apply that)
* Mental health awareness (how to support and what type of language to use)
* Visual impairment awareness
* Knife crime
* Gang awareness
* Unhealthy eating (especially in school canteens!)

Thanks all so much for attending! I have decided to award Jess from Thriftwood School, a star of the meeting because she has contributed great ideas and opinions. Well done to all the young people who were involved and contributed to a fantastic discussion!

Next academic year we are moving to meetings every half term on request of our young people and in MID Secondary, the list is broken down below. **If you would like to host any meetings throughout the 2023/2024 academic year, then let us know ASAP:**

**Wednesday 4th October**

**Tuesday 5th December**

**Friday 9th February**

**Thursday 21st March**

**Wednesday 15th May**

**Thursday 4th July**