



ST NINIAN'S HIGH SCHOOL
MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 2 OCTOBER 2017

PRESENT: MR P McLAUGHLIN (HT)
MR A TAYLOR (DHT)
MRS M HERON (PT Guidance)
MR D CHAPPELLE (Chair)
MS M McCARNEY (Vice Chair)
MRS A HENDERSON
MS K McCARTHY
MRS Y WEBB
MR J O'DOWD
MRS M WILSON
MR T BRESLIN (Church Rep)
MONICA KIERNEY (Head Girl)
JACK McDOWALL (Head Boy)
MS L FAIRBAIRN (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: MRS E CAIRNEY, MR E DALY, Cllr J JAMIESON,
Cllr M FISCHER & Cllr S MURRAY

Mr Chappelle welcomed everyone and the meeting opened with a prayer.

The members and visitor introduced themselves and Mr Chappelle welcomed the new members.

Head Girl – Monica Kierney discussed her role so far as Head Girl. She talked about her trip to China through the Confucius Hub and her week in Skye with Columba 1400. She went on to talk about the events so far as part of the captancy team, and the plans they have later in the year starting with an event scheduled for Friday 6 Oct to begin raising funds for a school in Africa through Mary's Meals. Later events will include the Christmas Concert and the Senior Citizens' lunch.

Previous Minutes: Agreed

Matters Arising:

Growth Mindset – Mr Taylor explained how year groups have been involved in workshops so far with very positive feedback and how we are focusing on pupils, parents and staff.

PTA Update:

Ms Fairbairn gave the update in Mrs Cairney's absence.

- A fashion night is being planned for Friday 3 November
- The PTA will hold a meeting in the next few weeks to make plans for the Christmas Fayre on Fri 1 December. Date of meeting to be confirmed.

Chair's Report:

- Mr Chappelle congratulated Mr McLaughlin on the school's recent award success.
- Copies of the SCES newsletter were made available to members which is also available to download from the web site.
- The Parent Forum was held on 18 September
 1. They gave an update on the Education Committee, who gave approval to the school holiday calendar. They also elected a new Education Committee Parental Rep – Robert.....from Holy Family.
 2. Additional Support Needs set up discussed and the various levels of needs explained. They are looking at way of engaging and including parents. Mr Chappelle will circulate information on this when received. Next meeting will be held on 13 November in Bishopbriggs Academy.
- Education Bill will be put forward soon. Parental involvement.
- Government Review still going. Changes with COSLA re areas.
- Consultation closes 15 October re Fair Funding to achieve excellence. Mr Chappelle will forward a link for members.
- Mr Chappelle attended the Scottish Learning Festival last Thursday for a seminar on the cost of a school day. He will also circulate info on this to members.

Head Teachers Report:

- The latest newsletter has been issued. Thanks to Shirley and Nicola in the office for this. Mr McLaughlin recommended using Twitter to keep fully up to date on everything happening in the school.
- Mr McLaughlin asked the members for any items they would like highlighted at future Parent Council meetings.
- Staffing – Siobhan McKenna has been appointed PT Maths, created by John Reilly moving to HMle, and will take up her position after the October break. We have several probationers this term and 7 student teachers joined us today.
- ASN link with Merkland School. Nine S1 pupils attend the school from Tuesday-Thursday supported by Merkland staff. They have settled well and are enjoying being in the school.
- We had 2 successful trips recently to China and Belgium/Holland. John Swinney visited the school for the launch of National Maths week and spent time with pupils.
- Celtic Partnership continues with 58 full-time pupils and 9 part-time. MSP Joanne Lamont will join us as part of the Professional Youth Academy visits.
- Columba 1400 – we ran our own Leadership Academy which was very positive, and we will continue to build on this. Mr McLaughlin recently spent a week in Columba 1400 in Skye.
- Awards recently received:
 1. Raising Attainment
 2. EDC Probationer of the Year – Frazer Satti
 3. Cycling Friendly Award
 4. GTC – Excellence Award
- Feast Day – the Archbishop delivered Mass at the church and was impressed to see how we celebrate Feast Day with the parish.

- Prizegiving will be held on Thursday 12 October - invites will be sent out soon.
- Jack McDowall (Head Boy) joined the meeting. He explained that he is honoured to have the role and is really keen to make a difference and can't wait to get into it.
- SQA Results – Mr McLaughlin explained and discussed the exam results. Mr Molesdale, HT from Bishopbriggs, who have the highest performance, visited the staff meeting last week to share info and ideas on their results. He discussed their system of Options, Mentoring and Supported Study. Rigour and aspiration were key to attainment.
- Supported Study – Although the funding for Supported Study was cut several years ago, money has been found from other areas which allow teachers to continue to offer this. Jack McDowall felt St Ninian's offer a lot to help through tracking and Supported Study. Monica Kierney agreed that Supported Study and the Easter School were vital in helping her achieve her grades. Mr McLaughlin congratulated Monica on becoming female DUX. Mrs Heron explained that staff make realistic targets in class then offer encouragement to pupils when they have built up confidence to allow them to reach their full potential. Mr McLaughlin acknowledged that we rarely have any disruption in classes across all year groups. Pupils love the merit system and Reach for the Stars.
- Mr McLaughlin would like to focus on the Pupil Equity Fund at a future meeting.

Mr Chappelle thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was brought to a close.

AOCB:

- None

Next meeting: Monday 11 December 2017 at 7pm.