



ST NINIAN'S HIGH SCHOOL
MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESENT: MR P McLAUGHLIN (HT)
MRS M HERON (PT Guidance)
MRS M KERR (DHT)
MS M McCARNEY (Chair)
MRS Y WEBB (Vice Chair)
MR D CHAPPELLE (Parent)
MRS E CAIRNEY (Parent & PTA Rep)
MRS A HENDERSON (Parent)
MR E DALY (Parent)
MR J O'DOWD (Parent)
MRS M WILSON (Parent)
MR T BRESLIN (Church Rep)
MR K McKENNA (Co-opted member)
MS L FAIRBAIRN (Clerk)
Christopher McKenna (Head Boy)
Robyn Cameron (Head Girl)

APOLOGIES: MR A TAYLOR (DHT)
MS K McARTHUR (Parent)
MR B MASTERSON (Parent)
Cllr S MURRAY
Cllr S THORNTON
Cllr M FISCHER

Ms McCartney welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The meeting started with the school prayer.

Head Boy and Head Girl: Mr McLaughlin introduced Christopher McKenna (Head Boy) and Robyn Cameron (Head Girl) to the meeting. Christopher explained the process of becoming Head Boy and Girl, which included giving a presentation to teachers and their year group and took them out of their comfort zone. He felt this will help set them up for the future and that it is a great privilege to have this opportunity. They appreciated the involvement and experience of last year's Head Boy and Girl and Christopher explained how the new captaincy team all brought different leadership qualities. Robyn explained how they want to work more with the junior captains and the S6s have set new House Group challenges. They also have plans to help in the LCR and will be running a club during S/L time on a Monday. She explained how the S6s are 'giving back' by being involved in helping in the Music Dept for the St Ninian's Feast Day and explained that they have new ideas for their Charities Committee. Mr McLaughlin explained how the Captaincy Team are expected to bring their own new ideas to the school to develop leadership. Mrs McCarney thanked and congratulated Christopher and Robyn and they left the meeting.

Previous Minutes: These were agreed

Matters Arising: The position of Chief Invigilator may be advertised on Twitter.

PTA Update: Mrs Cairney explained that the AGM had just taken place and the new committee members were:

Chair – Evelyn Cairney

Vice Chair – Rhiannon Murray

Secretary – Annemarie Boyle

Treasurer – Veronica Daud

The annual Christmas Fayre preparations are well under way for Thursday 29 November. This is one of the main fundraisers and needs to attract as many people as possible and it was felt that a Thursday night might be more suitable to many parents. Raffle tickets for hampers will be available and will be drawn at the Christmas Concert. Future fundraising plans for a Spring Fashion Show and possible car boot sale are on-going.

Chairs Report:

- Mrs McCarney and Mr Chappelle attended the recent Parent Forum meeting where Jacqui McDonald congratulated us on the success of our recent inspection.
- There is a meeting next Monday to discuss EDC Parental Engagement strategies in Turnbull High which Mrs McCarney will attend.
- The S1 Parents' Numeracy Evening which was held last week to help parents understand what pupils are learning was discussed. There was a good turnout for this event.
- The S1 Parents Night will be held next week.
- Mrs McCarney thanked Mr Chappelle for his role as Parent Council Chair for the last 2 years.

HT Report:

- The Tess Award event was a great day, and even though we didn't win, Mr McLaughlin was delighted that we had been nominated.
- Since the Inspection report, Mr McLaughlin has been invited by other schools to give talks on how we achieved this.
- Secondary Heads have been invited to the Scottish Learning Festival.
- New term – The new S1 pupils have settled well and it was agreed that our P6 and P7 days all contribute to make an easy transition.
- Staffing: David Killin (new DHT) joined us in June to replace Scott McEwan who left for a new post in Alva. Mr Killin has responsibility for S1 & S2 and Pupil Support. Kevin Watson who is a former pupil has joined the Modern Languages dept. and we have several probationers with us again this year.
- We currently have a group of S2/3 pupils in Skye with 3 staff members. Mr McLaughlin will be attending on Thursday & Friday.
- St Ninian's Feast Day will be held on Friday 14 September. This is a non-uniform day and will include Mass, a talent show, quiz and fun activities in PE.
- The strike action scheduled for Wednesday 12 September has been cancelled.
- Arrangements are in place for our senior school Prizegiving which will be held on Thursday 11 October at 7pm in the school.

- SQA Results – encouraging results again this year. Mr McLaughlin showed a slide of statistics and discussed this year's results. Meetings with individual departments will begin next week to look at ways of improving on these. The Insight figures from the Scottish Government which show comparisons to other schools are not available yet but should be out next week. Again, parents agreed that the Primary/Secondary liaison is a huge benefit to pupils' achievements.
- School Roll – A discussion took place regarding the continuing rise in the school roll. EDC are aware of the concerns for future years. Class sizes and staffing are not a problem. The only difference is that social areas are busier, but the Assembly Hall is open to accommodate S5 pupils to help alleviate this.
- The first day back after summer was a holiday of obligation. A 20-minute talk was given to non-Catholic pupils to explain this and was very successful.

AOCB: The Parent Council meeting scheduled for 10 December clashes with the School Show, so has been rescheduled to 3 December.

Ms McCarney thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was brought to a close.

Next meeting: Monday 29 October 2018 at 7pm.