

## FORFAR ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

### MINUTE

#### Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday, 13 March 2018 at 7pm

<b>Present</b>	Kas Mohamed	Head Teacher
	Louise Nicoll	Chairperson
	Julie Brown	Vice Chairperson
	Alison Neave	Secretary
	Mel Richards	
	Pam Davie	
	Jill MacDairmid	
	Alison Kydd	
	Lesley Cromar	
	Karen Law	
	Karen Smith	
	Jacqui Williamson	
	Frances Coutts	
Jane Maguire		
Emma Gillies		
<b>Apologies</b>	Graeme Wallace	Depute Head Teacher
	Gloria Garland	
	Karen Carle	
	Victoria Alexander	
	Carla Rodriguez	
	Emma Gillies	

#### **Welcome and Apologies**

Louise welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

#### **Approval of Last Minute**

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held in November 2017 were approved by Frances Coutts and seconded by Jacqui Williamson.

## **Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**

Louise confirmed everything was in place for the Eberhn Ceilidh on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018, starting at 645pm. Committee volunteers were on hand to help on the night. No other issues were discussed regarding the Ceilidh,

## **Items for Discussion**

As with the previous meeting, Mr Mohammed had asked the committee to be part of discussions regarding Forfar Academy moving forward with new ideas.

The committee were given sight of a new School Values booklet which was in draft form at the moment. It was felt that the idea of a small booklet would be more user friendly than a poster informing pupils and parents of the values being put in place. Mr Mohammed asked for feedback on the content of the booklet and the committee agreed they were user friendly and easily read.

At the recent in-service days, all the teachers had been asked to write their pledges down on a card and the committee were shown these. The pupils had also been given the opportunity to write down what their commitment would be.

Mr Mohammed advised the committee about the funds which were in the Pupil Equity Funds, which was currently £90,000.

He spoke about the 3 year plan he had hoped the school would follow.

There was discussion on how to get more information out regarding school activities and to inform parents of what was going on within the school and fundraising. Mr Mohammed was aware there seemed to be a breakdown with communication with parents.

Within the next few months, a Facebook page would be set up. This would be set up where no comments can be posted, it would only be used for information. Jacqui Williamson would hopefully take this task on board. This will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Other discussion was based round involving more open events to involve more of the pupils and their parents. An Open Day, Career Evening or Sports Day were discussed as these were held in previous years and were very successful. It was felt the school was maybe losing touch and these events would bring everyone together.

It was commented on that the school were maybe focusing more on pupils taking the University route and that there was a lack of pathway for pupils who were not going down this road. Mr Mohammed suggested creating a small group of committee members to try and put together a pupil pathway to show other areas that pupils can follow if not going down the University route. Alison Neave and Jill MacDiarmid

volunteered to be part of this group. Mr Mohammed would try and get this started early in August this year.

Mr Mohammed confirmed the school was awarded £90,000 for the PEF fund. The areas the school are spending our PEF money on are:-

- appointing an additional Principal Teacher to focus whole school work to reduce the impact of the poverty related attainment gap

- appointing a Resource worker to carry out focused work with individual pupils and small group to support increased engagement in the wider life of the school

- commissioning a counselling service for students including one to one work, drop in's and staff training in supporting pupils mental health and wellbeing.

## **AOCB**

It was agreed that the Parent Council Cup nomination forms be distributed sooner this year in the hope that there would be more nominations put forward for the Cup. Alison was to email this information sheet and form out to all committee members who would in turn distribute to other parties.

Alison was to obtain financial code from the Finance Department to put against the cost of the prize to the winner and pass this onto the office staff.

It was agreed that the Parent Council would have a stall at the S1 Parents Night and they could approach new parents with information on what the Parent Council does and encourage new members to come along to the AGM in September.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday, 5 June 2018 at 7pm.

