**Auchinleck Academy Parent Forum**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Thursday 13 September 2018**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Martin Robertson Eileen Neil Katrina McEwan

Susan Robertson Robert Brown David Hulme

Agnes Nicol Carol Leitch Chris Johnstone

Hilary Sharp Maureen Guthrie Natasha Romaniuk

(School Captain)

1. **Welcome and Introduction**

Martin welcomed all and introduced all to the meeting.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Hamish White (School Captain), Adele Young and Elaine Taylor.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Anti-Bullying

Policy was approved, and leaflet has been issued to all pupil except new S1, which will be issued shortly.

Rugby

Senior Boys Team were nominated finalist in West FM Cream of Ayrshire Awards for Class of the Year, group of teachers will attend the event, consideration will be given to some pupils following discussion as children have been present in the past at this event.

New School

Sod cutting ceremony took place on 11 June 2018, unfortunately no Parent Council members were able to attend.

The foundation stone will be unveiled on 26 September 2018 by John Swinney MSP should anyone be able to attend.

Time capsules are being organised with School Captains currently collecting items to be included, suggestions included minutes of a Parent Council meeting, exam timetables, and exam papers.

It is expected that the AstroTurf pitches will be ready and opened for use in January 2019.

East Ayrshire Council website provides full updates and plans are also available to view online.

1. **Head Teacher Update**

Staffing

Sadly, during the summer break Jim Fulton, Maths department, passed away.

A memorial service has been arranged and a memory box will be presented to the

family.

C McKissock, Biology, has left to take up a new post closer to her home.

New teachers within the school are:

Mr Rorison – English Miss McIlvanney – Biology

Mr Reidford – Social Subjects Miss McCreadie – French

Temporary teacher: Mr Aitken – Maths

Mr Szumlakowski – Acting PT Technical

Probationer Teachers:

Mr O’Pray Miss McCausland

Mr Parker - Music Mrs Morris – Maths

Mr Elliot – Social Subjects

There are currently recruitment issues in H.E. nationwide, with posts being

covered by temporary teachers.

Additional changes include a new Home Link worker – Ashley Robertson.

Angie McDonald has been seconded full time to the school as CAMHS nurse.

Attainment

Nationwide analysis is expected shortly, early indications are that the results for

the school have lowered slightly this year. Principal teachers will be focussing on

raising attainment. Several workshops are being developed and will be help

in week commencing 01 October.

A discussion highlighted S3 exams were a heavy workload for some and Martin

Robertson agreed to consider the timings of these for the future.

Resilience

Mental Health remains a key topic of concern and pupils will be provided with

coping strategies. Resilience weeks are to be introduced for pupils.

Poverty Proofing

Continued aims to poverty proof the school include the removal of costs for

jotters/books, a uniform recycling scheme, subsidised travel for curricular trips,

free travel for those attending college. New suggestions have included a dress

exchange for Junior/Senior prom.

1. **School Captains Update**

Natasha and Hamish recently attended Dumfries House and met with Nicola

Sturgeon as part of the Year of the Young People.

They meet with Mrs McPheator and Mr Robertson regarding the Anti-bullying policy

and organise team building with the prefects. Organise the rota for the prefects

this year and ensure that all relevant details are advertised on the notice boards.

An inter-house Tug-0f-War competition is being considered.

They are meeting with the Cumnock Captains in the lead up to the merger.

Identifying vulnerable new S1 pupils and assisting them where appropriate.

1. **School APP**

The App provides the School Handbook basics for parents and pupils. So far,

it has been downloaded 470 times. Parents nights, digital champion surveys and

the Scottish Government’s GLOW website is all linked to the App.

1. **Digital Champions**

Digital Champion surveys will continue.

1. **Parent Council Election**

Due to the low numbers attending the meeting – all attendees were elected.

Martin Robertson asked those elected to advise any others who may like to participate to contact the school.

1. **Office Bearers Election**

Chairperson – Eileen Neil Vice Chair – Robert Brown

Secretary – Katrina McEwan Treasurer – Susan Robertson

Staff Representative – Jennifer Macara

School Captains – Natasha Romaniuk, Hamish White

1. **AOB**

Prom

The location of the prom is likely to be changed this year and details will follow this is a result of the issues with the venue last year and traffic continues to remain a concern.

There were issues with the after-party last year and it is likely that there will require to be a police presence on the estate to ensure there is no reoccurrence.

France trip scheduled for June 2019 has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

Membership for Visions (Teen Club for 13-16 year olds) and free gym membership for the seniors to be queried and clarified.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 4 December 2018

Further planned meetings: Thursday 28 February 2019

Tuesday 4 June 2019