

Stewarton Academy Parents Council – 15th January 2024

Attendees: K.Allen, E.Smith, A.Goldie, H King, S.Canning, L.Jewell, J.Semple, A.Clarke, S.MacLeod, C.McGregor, A.Stuart, M.Menzies, M McCormack, G.Johnston, G.Wilkie, John Stuart (HT), D.O'Brien

Special guests: S.Nicolson, R Beattie

Apologies: L.McKenzie, D.Caulfield, A.Brown, R.Bingham, P.McCaffrey, K Smith, J.Gaskin, R.Blackwood, W.McSheffery

| Welcome and apologies from K Allen | Actions |
|--|---|
| Minutes of previous meeting approved | |
| Approved by Kathryn Allen and seconded by Elaine Smith | |
| | |
| <p>Treasurer update – Alison Stuart Current balance = £5078.23, netball bid still to be deducted Leaving us = £4742.23</p> | |
| | |
| <p>Fundraising update – Elaine Smith £850 parent pay link to be added (golden ticket) Golden ticket was most success. Therefore, looking at doing another one for Easter.</p> <p>Summer BBQ date proposed - 20th June 2024. Can some 5th and 6th year students help organise?</p> | <p>John Stuart and Mr McCormack</p> |
| | |
| <p>Rights Respecting Schools update: Shelley Nicolson, Principal Teacher of Social Subjects and RME</p> <p>We are working towards the gold award as a Rights Respecting school. Visited a high school in Kilmarnock to learn from them on best practice.</p> <p>Three strands</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning through rights 2. Learning for rights 3. Pupil participation <p>Currently working on strand 1, with the following activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting with helping the pupils learn about their rights. • Looking at school charter. • Pupils lead staff training session. | |
| | |
| <p>Developing the Young Workforce and update: Rachel Beattie, Principal Teacher of Developing the Young Workforce and STEM</p> | |

| | |
|--|-----|
| <p>Developing young workers with support from our SCQF ambassadors. Aligning this to our meta skills. STEM at the heart.</p> <p>Initiatives – Young Stem, First lego league, In schools, MyJob Stewarton, My world of work, Industrial cadets, young enterprise</p> <p>Vocational pathways - cycle maintenance level 4, Barista group, construction crafts</p> <p>Progression pathway – S1 – meta skills careers fair S2 Subject choices week S3 Learn4Work S4 MyJob Stewarton work experience. S5 skills academy work experience S6 – foundation academy work experience</p> <p>Updating a new section on the website for Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Learn 4 Work – Current project with Ayrshire Growth Deal to redesign The Big Idea in Irvine. Vision going forward is to work with employers.</p> | All |
| <p>Departmental bids/update: Kathryn Allen</p> <p>PE volleyball club for S1-S6. Starting to compete in competitions looking for strips for new volleyball tops. 10 tops 17-20 each total bid of £340 - £400: APPROVED</p> | |
| <p>EA Steering group update: John Semple</p> <p>Following steering group meeting in December, successful bids have been submitted, follow up meeting on 6th February.</p> <p>Extension progress, undergoing architect meetings. Councillor – Stephen Canning advised the budget going to council end of the financial year.</p> <p>Education reform survey - EA came in 4th highest for people to reply to surveys. Scottish Government meeting to talk over surveys and next steps in the coming weeks.</p> | |
| <p>Head teacher update: John Stuart</p> | |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Duke of Edinburgh review to ensure we are effective as possible. Streamline bronze to start in 3rd year May/June. With expedition in June time in 4th year. Then straight to gold in 5th Year. Communication will go out to pupils to explain new streamlined process.</p> <p>Dates for diary January – S5/6 mid-session assessments Tue 23rd January – parents meeting re. Loch Eil Thurs 1st February – options event and market street event for S2-S5 Fri 9th to Tue 13th February – Holiday Mon 26th Feb to Fri 1st March – S2 Loch Eil outward bound</p> <p>Ski trip estimated cost £1300 each, therefore, the decision was made not to run 23/24. Looking at options for paying over 2-year period and fundraising opportunities.</p> <p>Thank you from John Stuart, we had a very positive end of 2023, with the S-Factor and Christmas concert.</p> | |
| <p>Forward planning / AOB</p> <p>Work experience for S4 and S5 – the current work experience format is being assessed. Any pupils gaining work experience to speak with their guidance teacher to see where it can fit into their calendars. Will be promoted again when WorkIt is more established.</p> <p>Feedback: Clash with Christmas concert 2024, S4 parents’ night and Robertland event. This will be reviewed with local schools going forward.</p> <p>Bus costs for sporting events, can we do a reminder on the school app.</p> | |
| <p>Date for next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9th October 2023 ● 13th November 2023 ● Christmas market – 30th November ● 15th January 2024 ● 26th February 2024 ● 22nd April 2024 ● 10th June 2024 ● AGM - 2nd September 2024 | |