

St Joseph's Academy Parent Council
Minutes of Meeting 21st January 2019

Attendance

Parents	
Jim Campbell (Chair)	
Julie Batchelor	
Deborah Boyd	Apology
Derek Campbell	
Anne Queen	
Lesley Cuthbertson (Treasurer)	
Gavin Duffy	
Mairi Gribben	
Shirley Harkness	
Jackie Livingstone	
Kate McLean	
Douglas Thomson	
Fiona Rosa	Apology
Grace Walker	
Staff	
Joseph Kane (HT)	
Donna Shearer (DHT)	
Councillors	
Fiona Campbell	Apology
Maureen McKay	

Parent Council Business

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Jim Campbell welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the opening prayer.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Previous minutes were passed as being accurate.

Matters Arising

Actions from previous meeting

- Bank account signatory – Paperwork to be passed to Joseph Kane for inclusion on the list of authorised signatories and previous signatories to be removed. **Action: LC / JK**
- Barnardo's to be invited to a future meeting **Action: JK**
- Mental Health Wellbeing – Nurture room no longer functioning as such

- Jim Campbell to forward Mental Health presentation to Karen Gartland **Action: JC**
- After school clubs – JK has spoken to the club leaders regarding the safe release of pupils from clubs. Pupils to be collected by a responsible adult.

Head Teacher Report (Appendix 1)

See attached Appendix for full details.

Discussion items included:

School Charter which was shared with all present. The Code of Conduct issued earlier in the school year, sits behind the charter.

Mr Kane briefly ran through the Events and Activities.

Local Food bank have expressed their appreciation of the support received from St Joseph's Academy, which is its biggest supporter. To date, 1 Ton of food has been donated by St Joseph's.

Staffing Update;

Mrs Todd – Music – has resigned. Mr Cowan and Mrs Marshall are currently picking up the 'slack' for now.

Miss Smith – Technology - resigned.

Mr Kane gave a description of the PEF Funded posts and the Parental Engagement post and the reason for having people in these posts. Question was raised around measurement of the success of these posts. JK gave an outline of how he will measure the effectiveness and a description of the mechanism used.

ASN/Sfl update highlighted. Mrs Hoy will attend the next meeting. Support from the PC in tackling EAC for additional support with kids with ASN/ Sfl needs would be appreciated.

Suggestion was raised around bringing in a Primary School teacher to assist with S1/2 pupils in raising their numeracy/ literacy levels. JK advised that there is no available budget.

New Promethean Boards are being installed. Completion expected 29th January.

JK was looking to install a Tannoy system, however, due to budget cost of £25k this won't be happening.

I-pad Rollout;

- S1 no I-pads received yet.
- EAC will continue to support the I-pad rollout
- Oversight on recovery of I-pads from previous pupils. Action plan in place to rectify. 50 have been recovered to date.
- First batch of 30 I-pads are now available for some S1 pupils
- EAC working on a roll-out programme

Discussion around the amount of time being spent on pupils classed as 'Refusers' i.e. pupils attending school but refusing to attend classes. This is in addition to the high proportion of pupils with ASN. Offer made by Parent Council to approach EAC/ Head of Education for additional support for the school. JK requested we hold off until after the Authority Screening Group (ASG) meeting.

Feedback on the Curriculum consultation. 25/29 respondents agreed with the consultation proposals. The proposals do present a challenge around staffing, which JK and SMT need to consider.

Bids for PEF Funding

PE Kits – approved

PE Mirrors for Dance – approved

Science – approved through majority vote.

St Sophia's Consultation – chat around the proposals, with JK stating his position as Head Teacher of St Joseph's and the potential impact on pupil numbers.

Treasurer's Report

No change since last meeting.

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

AOCB

It was noted that under the List of Events there was no mention of the 3 pupils who swam on behalf of St Joseph's in the EA Schools event. One pupil going on to represent Scotland. There was also no mention of the Badminton competition attended by S1-S3 pupils.

School Trips – Brexit may have an impact on planned trips. Further information will be provided in due course.

Litter in toilets and a spate of vandalism may force the school to lock toilets during class times. Those with toilet passes will be given access to the disabled toilet.

JK extended an invite to PC members to come into school to see the litter issue. This has been taken up by 3 PC members – Derek, Mairi and Dougie.

Question was raised around reported issue of Pupils from another school accessing St Joseph's during lunch time. JK confirmed that this had happened on 3 occasions. There was 1 incident where a fight had broken out, however, this was quickly dealt with by staff. Campus police have also been involved.

Closing Prayer

JC led the closing prayer.

Dates of forthcoming meetings for 18/19

- Monday 29th April
- Monday 10th June