

St Joseph's Academy Parent Council
Minutes of Meeting 25th November 2019

Attendance

Parents	
Jim Campbell (Chair)	
Lesley Cuthbertson	Apology
Julie Batchelor	
Anne Queen	Apology
Mairi Gribben	Apology
Shirley Harkness	
Jackie Livingstone	
Kate McLean	Apology
Douglas Thomson	Apology
Fiona Rosa	Apology
Grace Walker	Apology
Sharon Christie	
Deborah Boyd	Apology
Gavin Duffy	
Catriona McCrindle	Apology
Paul McLoughlin	Apology
Martin Hopkins	Apology
Staff	
Joseph Kane (HT)	
Angela Quigley (DHT Acting)	
Church Representative	
Frances McCann	Apology
Councillors	
Maureen McKay	
Fiona Campbell	Apology

Welcome and Opening Prayer

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

Pupil Presentations from Eco Committee / Junior Leadership Team / Senior Leadership Team

Cona Maitland (Eco-committee and Junior Leadership Team) presented to the Parent Council on the pupil led activities that have been informed by the Eco-committee, including:

- Improved recycling including the provision of food waste bins
- Attendance at a climate conference
- Organised litter picks
- Participation in the EA inter school eco-committee
- Application for Green Flag

Elle Haddow (Head Girl) and Shahmirr Mirza (Head Boy) presented to the Parent Council on the initiatives that are being led by this year's Pupil Leadership Team including:

- Support for the charities, “Beautiful Inside and out”, SCIAF and the annual Christmas Food Parcel Campaign, EA Food Bank (St Joseph’s Academy being the biggest single contributor to the foodbank)
- Potential to provide assistance to disadvantaged pupils to attend the prom
- Attendance at Kilmarnock Rotary Club alongside other PLTs from EA schools
- Participation in leadership training
- Daily roles for PLT Prefects include queue monitoring, and litter monitoring

The Parent Council thanked the pupils for their presentations and encouraged them to return later in the year to provide updates on the various initiatives planned and underway.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes passed as accurate.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

Head Teacher Report

Mr Kane took the PC through the Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) from the recent School Inspection indicating that the outcome was as follows:

Leadership of Change	Satisfactory
Learning, Teaching and Assessment	Satisfactory
Ensuring Wellbeing, equality and inclusion	Satisfactory
Raising Attainment and Achievement	Satisfactory

It was considered to be a fair and reasonable outcome, given the following factors:

- 28 new appointments made in 18 months, which has taken up a considerable amount of Mr Kane’s time.
- There have been 13 different post holders in the Pastoral Care team over the last 7 years
- No teacher in the role of Support for Learning in 15 years
- Factors affecting Raising Attainment included;
 - o A period of 2year Highers
 - o A system that offered only 6 National 5’s in 4th Year, compared to other schools who offered 7 or 8

Outwith the inspection report and the written school report Mr Kane and Miss Quigley highlighted the following:

- S4 – S6 pupils time out of school will be limited to activities directly related to their curricular studies
- Prelim timetable is running from 6th – 24th January (timetable is revised annually as there are more options now available to pupils)

- An enhanced internal tracking system is in place in S4 -S6 with closer monitoring to evidence early interventions to assist pupils to get back on track. And there are plans to roll this out to S1 – S3.
- Attainment focus groups have been initiated for pupils in S5 and S6 sitting Highers to provide a focus on attainment
- A mentoring system has been initiated to assist S5 and S6 pupils and curricular information has been shared throughout the staff to ensure that staff have a wider view of each pupil's curriculum.

Treasurer's Report

No change since last meeting.

Correspondence

None

AOCB

Gavin Duffy provided feedback on the Bus Warrants System that has been put in place to encourage wider participation in after school activities for all pupils, indicating that it was having a significant impact on the time that pupils were getting home compared to the previous taxi system, particularly in the Cumnock and Auchinleck areas.

A discussion followed on the potential impact on continued pupil attendance at after school activities and also on the potential impact on future pupils from the Cumnock and Auchinleck areas choosing the new school in Cumnock over St Joseph's Academy.

Action: JK to initiate survey on Bus Warrants and feedback at next meeting

Closing Prayer

JC led the closing prayer.

Dates of forthcoming meetings

Monday 27th January 2020

Monday 9th March 2020

Monday 27th April 2020

Monday 8th June 2020