

St Joseph's Academy Parent Council
Minutes of Meeting 30th September 2019

Attendance

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

Parent Council Chair Report

Our Chair Jim Campbell welcomed everyone and provided a brief outline of the purpose of the Parent Council and a sample of the items the PC have been involved in over the last 12 months. See Attached Appendix for full details.

Parent Council Roles

Jim Campbell confirmed his intentions, in line with the constitution, to remain in the post of Chair for a further 12 months. There was no opposition to this, therefore, Jim Campbell will continue as Chairperson of St Joseph's Academy Parent Council.

Douglas Thomson will continue in the role of Secretary.

Lesley Cuthbertson advised that after 4 years as Treasurer she is standing down. However, Lesley is happy to continue as a member of the Parent Council. Jim expressed his thanks to Lesley for all her efforts in this role.

Mairi Gribben volunteered to assume the role of Treasurer.

Parent Council Business

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Jim Campbell welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Paul McLoughlin, Martin Hopkins and Pamela Chigbo, who are attending for the first time.

Jim led the opening prayer.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes passed as accurate.

Actions from previous meeting

Carry forward the action for DT to issue the prayer to all PC members.

Action: DT

Matters Arising

Question raised over Parental Involvement and how the PC can better engage with other Parents/ Carers. Suggestion of a PC Twitter account which is acceptable under the new rules set out by EAC regarding Twitter accounts. The PC would require a volunteer to manage the account. Discuss more at next PC meeting.

Action: ALL

The new rules around Twitter accounts were discussed. Several parents have noticed there are fewer posts. To clarify – EAC imposed restrictions over the summer holidays restricting each school to only 1 Twitter account. Photographs posted on the Twitter account can only be taken using an approved school IT device.

Head Teacher Report

Mr Kane took the PC through the Standards and Qualities Report. This is also available via the school website.

With the forthcoming visit of HMIE the focus of this evening was on the forthcoming inspection.

Mr Kane shared some thoughts and presented the Schools Self-Evaluation Summary, which had to be complete prior to inspection.

Mr Kane focussed on 4 key areas;

- Leadership of Change
- Pastoral Care Provision
- Learning, Teaching and Assessment
- Raising Attainment

There is information Mr Kane will share with the Inspection team which he believes needs to be taken into consideration during the assessment process, namely;

- 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;
 - A period of 2year Highers
 - A system that offered only 6 National 5's in 4th Year, compared to other schools who offered 7 or 8

Official feedback from the inspection will be received 10 weeks after conclusion of the visit.

Treasurer's Report

No change since last meeting.

Correspondence

Douglas Thomson shared the Extra-Curricular Opportunities within the School for the 2019-2020 session. Encouraged all parents to review and encourage children to take advantage of these activities.

AOCB

Jackie Livingston provided a brief update from the Parent Steering Group. Minutes from these meetings are available via the EAC website.

Suggestion from Councillor McKay for the Parent Council to engage with the organising managing the school under the current PFI contract, Mitie, to ensure the school is being maintained in line with the contract and to ensure the school is handed over at the end of the contract in a suitable condition. Discuss further at future meeting;

Action: ALL

Closing Prayer

JC led the closing prayer.

Dates of forthcoming meetings for 18/19

Monday 25th November 2019

Monday 27th January 2020

Monday 9th March 2020

Monday 27th April 2020

Monday 8th June 2020