

**St Joseph's Academy Parent Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Attendance**

<b>Parents</b>	
Jim Campbell (Chair)	
Julie Batchelor	
Anne Queen	
Mhairi Gribben	
Shirley Harkness	
Jackie Livingstone	
Kate McLean	Apologies
Douglas Thomson	
Grace Walker	
Paul McLaughlin	
Catriona McCrindle	Apologies
Gavin Duffy	
Amanda Bussam Kennedy	
Pamela Chigbo	
Deborah Boyd	Apologies
<b>Staff</b>	
Joseph Kane (HT)	
<b>Councillors</b>	
Maureen McKay	Apology

**Meeting conducted via Zoom call, as a result there will be limitations to the detail of what can be discussed, particularly relating to personal data relating to staff, pupils, parents & council officials.**

Jim Campbell opened the meeting by welcoming everyone on the call. Jim outlined the agenda and explained that the first element is the AGM which includes the appointment of office bearers, with the remainder of the meeting standard PC business.

**AGM**

Jim presented a PC Chair report outlining the activities of the last 12 months.

As Jim has come to the end of his 2year tenure he is stepping down as Chair.

Dougie Thomson also stepping down as Secretary.

Mhairi Gribben indicated her intention to continue as treasurer.

**Gavin Duffy endorsed as the new Chairperson.**

**Jim Campbell endorsed as the secretary, for 1 year only, to facilitate the smooth transition and handover of Chairperson duties to Gavin.**

Fiona Rosa and Francis McCann both stepping down from Parent Council. Jim will need to approach Father Martin for a Church representative in place of Francis.

Jim expressed his thanks to both Fiona and Francis for their support of the School and the PC

### **Parent Council Business**

#### **Opening Prayer**

Jim Campbell led the opening prayer.

#### **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Passed as accurate.

#### **Head Teacher Report**

Mr Kane thanked Jim Campbell for his contribution as Chair and thanked Dougie Thomson for his contribution as secretary.

#### **School Report** (see attached for full details)

##### **Key Points**

All communications between school and parents/ wider community are via electronic means due to the COVID19 situation.

Face coverings not being worn to the extent the school would like. Parents asked to encourage pupils to wear masks as directed by Scottish Government and by school staff.

Families need to consider the rights of staff and other pupils when taking the decision not to abide by the rules.

14 members of staff and 135 pupils have been tested to date, with no positive results.

Staggered breaks have been introduced in addition to the successful pilot of staggered lunch.

S1-S3 10.30-10.45

S4-S6 11.20-11.35

SQA – to date still to receive clarity from SQA/ Scottish Government on the exam diet for 2021.

Insight results postponed.

PE – outdoor PE is not a school decision it is a Government directive. The directive to have PE outdoors, at all times, is unlikely to change in the near future. Children must come prepared with suitable winter clothing for PE.

Parents Evenings – unlikely to happen before Christmas. Possibly no face to face parent's evenings this school term (2020/2021)

School trips cancelled as a result of COVID19. All refunds expected to be made before end of October.

Special thanks to Mrs Shearer for all her efforts in obtaining the refunds.

Free School meals – anticipate around 32% of families are entitled to free school meals, where only 21% are currently registered.

#### **Staff**

PEF funded Hub Support Worker – Miss Ross – started last week

PEF funded Hub Support Worker 0.6FTE – Miss Millar - start date to be confirmed

Teacher of Modern Languages – Miss Bernard – start date late October

Mrs McCormack from the office has taken a secondment role within the Central Education team.

Mrs McMillan will assume the position of office manager for the period of Mrs McCormack's secondment.

Miss Pettigrew (IT Technician), Mrs Marshall (PT Pastoral Care) and Mrs Cunningham (PT Social Subjects) will all commence maternity leave soon. Mr Kane and the PC wish all 3 families well at this joyful time.

Amanda Bussam Kennedy provided information re a Consultation for Supported Learning Centres which is proposed to go through cabinet. Dates are;

Pre-cabinet – 21/10

Cabinet 28/10

#### **Treasurer's Report**

No change since last meeting.

Change in Chair and secretary means Bank Account signatories will need to be amended.

#### **Correspondence**

No correspondence received.

**Date of next meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 (Zoom call)**

## **AOCB**

Jim Campbell expressed his thanks to Lesley Cuthbertson for her contribution to the Parent Council over the years.

## **Closing Prayer**

JC led the closing prayer.

## **Dates of forthcoming meetings:**

**Extraordinary meeting arranged for 22<sup>nd</sup> June to review the full document relating to the return to school in August 2020. This will be the only item on the agenda for this meeting.**

Dates for meetings in 2020/21 will be issued in due course.