

St Joseph's Academy Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting 25th October 2021

Attendance

Parents	
Gavin Duffy (Chair)	
Julie Batchelor	
Dawn Bias (Church Rep)	
Deborah Boyd	Apology
Jim Campbell	
Pamela Chigbo	Apology
Mairi Gribben	Apology
Shirley Harkness	Apology
Amanda Busam Kennedy	
Jackie Livingstone	
Catriona McCrindle	Apology
Paul McLaughlin	Apology
Kate McLean	Apology
Anne Queen	Apology
Marion Smith	Apology
Douglas Thomson	Apology
Grace Walker	
Staff	
Joseph Kane (HT)	
Est Ayrshire Councillors	
Fiona Campbell	Apology
Maureen McKay	Apology

Meeting conducted via Zoom call, as a result there will be limitations to the detail of what can be discussed.

Parent Forum AGM

Gavin Duffy opened the meeting by welcoming everyone on the call. Gavin 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.

Gavin presented a PC Chair report outlining the activities of the last 12 months, highlighting the partnership working between the Parent Council and the school and the barriers to that in working remotely.

- As he is 12 months into a two-year tenure, Gavin Duffy will continue as chair.
- In advance of the meeting Mhairi Gribben had indicated her intention to stand down as PC Treasurer. Grace Walker volunteered to take on the role of treasurer and will carry out a handover from Mhairi.
- As there were no volunteers to take on the role of secretary, Jim Campbell agreed to continue on a meeting-to-meeting basis until another PC member volunteers for the role.
- As there were no new members Julie Batchelor proposed that PC members write a short piece on the benefits of being a member of the Parent Council. **Action: ALL**

Parent Council Business

Opening Prayer

Gavin Duffy opened the meeting by welcoming everyone on the call and leading the opening prayer.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Passed as accurate.

Head Teacher Report

Mr Kane presented the [School Report](#), highlighting:

COVID-19

- COVID mitigations remain as they were prior to the October break
- A number of pupils and staff continue to test positive for COVID, but numbers have dropped off markedly against those within our community in late August/early September.

SQA

- Significant strategic decisions that have contributed to improved attainment in recent years
- SQA appeal results are due to be released to schools on Wednesday 27th October.
- Intention to run S4 – S6 prelim diet in January
- Planning for exams as normal with contingency of teacher judgement
- Attainment trends positive with St Joseph's now highest attainment in East Ayrshire

Vision Values & Aims

- S3 Leadership team working with Mrs Shearer in revisiting and reviewing school values
- In addition St Andrew, St, Columba and St Margaret will be replaced as House patrons with modern day Saints following a consultation exercise with pupils and parents

Improvement Plan

- Draft improvement plan (not public facing yet at link below, feedback from PC welcome.
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/public/stjosephsacademy/uploads/sites/2043/2021/10/25100424/St.-Josephs-Academy-SIP-2122.pdf>

Willowbank Consultation

The public consultation meeting that took place on Tuesday 11th May 2021 observed strong opposition to the Willowbank proposal from Willowbank, St Joseph's and St Andrew's parents.

Linda McAuley Griffiths is scheduled to meet and discuss the consultation with Education Scotland in the w/c 25/10/21.

Treasurer's Report

No Report. **Action: Bank Account signatories will need to be amended**

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

AOB

Closing Prayer

GD led the closing prayer.

Dates of Meetings:

- 29th November 2021
- 31st January 2022
- 14th March 2022
- 9th May 2022
- 20th June 2022