

St Joseph's Academy Parent Council
Minutes of Meeting 31st January 2022

Attendance

| Parents | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Gavin Duffy (Chair) | |
| Julie Batchelor | |
| Dawn Bias (Church Rep) | |
| Deborah Boyd | Apology |
| Jim Campbell | |
| Pamela Chigbo | Apology |
| Mairi Gribben | Apology |
| Shirley Harkness | |
| Amanda Busam Kennedy | |
| Jackie Livingstone | |
| Catriona McCrindle | Apology |
| Paul McLaughlin | |
| Kate McLean | Apology |
| Anne Queen | Apology |
| Marion Smith | |
| Douglas Thomson | |
| Grace Walker | Apology |
| Staff | |
| Joseph Kane (HT) | Apology |
| Andy Boyle (DHT) | |
| Angela Quigley (DHT) | |
| Donna Shearer (DHT) | |
| 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.

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.

Matters Arising (from Parent Forum Meeting)

Julie Batchelor proposed that PC members write a short piece on the benefits of being a member of the Parent Council. **Action: ALL**

Head Teacher Report

The three DHTs present presented the [School Report](#), and updated the PC on progress against each of their areas of responsibility highlighting:

COVID-19

- COVID mitigations remain as they have been for the entirety of this session
- There are still some restrictions around extra-curricular activities

P7 / S1 Transition

- AB visited, presented and run Q&A for every P7 class
- S1 taster pack with content from all subject areas issued

- Planning senior pupils Q&A
- Enhanced transition pupils identified
- Hopeful of visits (possibly in bubbles) if Covid-19 restrictions allow

UCAS & College applications all going to timetable

Learnwell

- Whole school wellbeing strategy (in response to NIF)
- Comprehensive wellbeing package addressing physical, mental, spiritual and social aspects of health
- See [webpages](#) for more detail

The PC engaged in a positive dialogue with Mr Boyle on this initiative.

Prelims

- The prelim diet ran smoothly
- Attendance, timekeeping and behaviour was excellent and non-attendance due to isolation was low.
- Miss Quigley offered thanks to all senior pupils for their positive conduct throughout.

SQA

- SQA plan to proceed as per [exam timetable](#) on their website, with 2 alternate scenarios to mitigate against potential Covid-19 restrictions being reintroduced.
- SQA to issue advice around potential changes to [exam content](#)
- There are potential level changes based on prelim results, these will be discussed at parents' nights before any changes are implemented.

Reporting

- Online parents' nights have been scheduled, feedback from S3 parents / staff is that the parents' night went smoothly.

Vision Values & Aims

- 215 pupils responded to the VVA Survey
- 6 chosen values then sent to parents, teachers and priests for comment
- New house patrons are St Francis of Assisi, Blessed Carlo Acutis, and St Mother Theresa

Willowbank Consultation

At the November meeting, GD indicated that Linda McAuley Griffiths had advised via email (dated 29/10/21) that:

- The consultation around Willowbank was complete
- Willowbank School has a position to get through academic year 22/23 but that there will be evident capacity issues after that point
- It is highly likely that EAC will return to the St Joseph's development as part of an "interim" solution
- EAC will require at all future stages to have due corporate governance in respect of next steps which will be in our taking an additional paper to cabinet to approve a more sustainable direction of travel, whilst likely utilising the plans in hand to cover the build time necessary from 23/24 onwards.

There was no update on the above.

Treasurer's Report

Handover in progress and account signatories to be updated as GW, ABK & JK **Action: GW**

Account Balance = £1395.30

It was agreed that the PC would fund the purchase of St Joseph's athletics vest at a cost of £73.50

Fundraising: At the November meeting, there was a discussion around the importance of fundraising to the provision of additional funds for the school, GW proposed the following ideas:

- On-line shopping widget
- Non uniform day
- On-line raffle
- Treasure hunt

A fuller discussion on fundraising will be scheduled for March's PC Meeting, including the provision of 'poverty proofing' events,

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

AOB

Closing Prayer

GD led the closing prayer.

Dates of Meetings:

- 14th March 2022
- 9th May 2022
- 20th June 2022