



The Robert Burns Academy Parent Council Barony Campus

Date: 2nd February 2026

Present: Rosemary Allen, Karen Cairns, Carol Dillon, Claire Donnelly, Hazel Drummond, Sheena Gemmell, Catrina Heggie, Stuart Hill, Laura Kelso, Amanda Luff, Louise McClounie, Ian McMeekin, Kirsty Mitchell, Christina Palmer, Janet Sloan, David Todd

In Attendance: Paul McGurn, Michelle Anderson

Apologies: Jillian D'Agostino, Elspeth Goldie, Lesley Hill, Cheryl Templeton, Adele Young, Tracy Stewart

Agenda items

1. Pupil Report

There were no pupils in attendance to give an update

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes circulated via email, noted at meeting and agreed as accurate.

3. Correspondence

There has been no correspondence since the last meeting

4. Update from Chair

No specific items to update.

5. Parent Steering Group Meeting

1st meeting of the year is taking place Tuesday 3rd February and an update will be given at the next meeting

6. Head Teacher's Report

Full report on file.



Paul gave an update on activities from the end of 2025 and since pupils returned in the new year.
Main points of note:

Winter assessments for S4-S6 took place over a 2 week period in December.
Supported study has been well attended with 350 pupils attending at least once
Study event was poorly attended.

Mr Robson (music dept) has left and his post is currently advertised
Other permanent vacancies to be advertised:

- Maths 1 FTE,
- Technical 1FTE, possibly 2 depending on quality of applicants

Masked Singer event was a great success and it's hoped it can be an ongoing event

The new term started with online learning due to flood but pupils have settled back in quickly.
There was a good response to the work posted online for students, particularly from senior pupils.
There are plans to do a refresher with all pupils to ensure they know how to access Teams. Flood damage was minimal with no disruption to classes, only 1 room remains out of use (DHT)

All departments have been asked to develop study aids which will be displayed in class rooms for pupils to scan QR codes to access resources

Assemblies will take place for all year groups focussing on raising standards and looking after wellbeing – Targeting vaping, high energy drinks, safety and litter

Department meetings re winter assessment results have taken place. Meetings have been positive and focussing on interventions for support

Supported study has started back and will continue until end of March

Study trip to Lockerbie Manor – Top 20 pupils in last years S4, top 13 from current S4. 27th to 1st March.

Easter school will run in the first week of the holiday – pupils will need to sign up

Exploring the possibility of master classes during exam leave

Learner Pathway – parent event this week for S2-S5. Presentation will go out on the blog.

New course offerings:

Design and manufacture will no longer be offered, changing to Creative Thinking SCQF level 5/6 (Run by Daydream Believers) No exam, all internally assessed.

Powering futures – Level 6 (Offered by outside company – looks at working alongside a company)

Departments beginning to merge NPA (photography) and Skills for Work courses to generate multiple awards from one timetabled class

Authority Learning Review – mini inspection – will take place 3-5th March. Looking for a parent focus group

Inservice Day next week – Looking at “The RBA Way”, linked to authority plan and school improvement plan.



New focus on safeguarding. Approach to safeguarding will be displayed at reception, in all classrooms and on Teams. 3 key areas - When might you need help? What happens when you tell someone? What happens if you are worried about a friend?

P7 Transition

Michelle shared the new Transition Policy which aims to ensure consistency across all feeder primary schools and provide a summary for parents and carers. Feedback is welcomed– what is useful? The Policy will go out to primaries this week - Every school has a representative who attends a meet every term - next meeting 19th February. Keen to create a summary for young people too. Email feedback to Mrs Anderson. w/b 16th February
Michelle.Anderson@eastayrshire.org.uk

7. Report from Fundraising Committee

Recent events raised £309.76

Need baking donations and a volunteer to help at upcoming S3 parents' night on 25th February.

8. Financial Report from Treasurer

Account balance not available

9. AOCB

Members who live in Cherrytrees/Terringzean View raised issues with pupil safety and recent near miss incidents caused by parents parking in the cul-de-sac to drop children to school. Paul will speak to campus police.

Issues of eScooters also raised – Paul will mention it to PC Aitken

Lack of homework was raised along with a lack of work on Teams for certain subjects during the week in January. Paul to raise with principal teachers at their next meeting.

10. Date of next meeting: 9th March 2026