

Parent Council Minutes
6th March 2017

A record of those attending was taken and retained and apologies noted.

Minute of Previous Meeting

The minute of the previous meeting was proposed and seconded by Mrs Foye and Mrs Hepburn

Correspondence

No correspondence

Treasurer's Report

Balance stood at £788.48. A cheque for £1150.00 had been handed to the school to be distributed as agreed at previous meeting.

School Report

The S5/6 prelims had just been completed.

The options process for pupils in S4 was just about complete. The pupils in S5 would be starting the process in the following week. The pupils in S2 would begin the process on 17th March.

Option booklets for S2 would be paper copies while the ones for S4 and S5 were online on the school website.

John Muir Award

Planting of potatoes, leeks and onions had taken place and pupils had taken part in a clear up of the site for spring time.

There would be a mop up session for pupils who had missed out on taking part.

A litter-pick had been done in the local area.

School Plan

This would be worked on over the next few weeks.

The Math's Review had taken place during the previous week and the Health and Wellbeing Review was taking place on Thursday 9th March. The schools selected by the authority to take part in this review were Barrhead High School, Woodfarm High School and Carlibar Primary School. The reviewers would be in the school for one day and would observe a variety of events over the course of the day.

S3 Review

A review of the S3 education experience would take place across the authority in May 2017.

Impact on Learners

ERC Study Weekends had taken place at Lochgoilhead for Math's, Chemistry and Physics. The uptake for these had not been as good as the school would have liked.

A draft programme had been prepared for the Easter School.

The Ski Trip had returned and had been very successful after an 'eventful journey' down to Italy.

Mr Sinclair apologised for the lateness of information regarding the Adventure Weekend. This was due to a change in PE staff with the teacher originally intending to organise the trip leaving to take up a permanent post in another authority. Mr Scott, long term supply teacher, had agreed to take on the organisation at short notice. The trip would take place between the 13th and 15th March.

New School

The building of the new school was progressing very well and was still on track for the August hand-over. Staff had been given the opportunity to visit the site and much of the internal work had been done although still a building site. The construction company had talked about a community visit day. Pupils had not yet had the opportunity to visit other than as part of their course work and many of the pupils were expressing a keen interest in visiting the site.

Staff who had visited had been 'pretty blown away' by the facilities available in the new school.

Departments had been given a deadline of the end of June to be packed up and ready to be moved over.

Equity Fund

Money had been allocated based on the number of pupils entitled to and taking up free school meals.

Barrhead High School had been awarded £62,000. Discussion on the various options for spending the money were taking place. It would be possible to spend it on staff and this amount would equate to 1 ½ teachers.

Mr Sinclair asked that if anyone had any ideas they would flag it up to the school.

Reading Recovery Programme

This programme had been very positive over the last few years and had resulted in improvements in Standardised Reading Scores. Pupils who had been achieving a score of 70 had moved to 90 and one pupil had moved from 70 to over 100.

A.O.C.B.

Mrs Hepburn mentioned that the Ski Trip had clashed with the Study Weekends and asked if this could be taken into consideration in the future.

Mrs Hepburn mentioned that a Communication and Social Media Policy should be available. This would be displayed on the School website.

Minutes of the Parent Council meeting would also be displayed on the website.

Mr Sinclair informed the council about the 'bring your own device' system now operating in the authority.

Staff had access to Wi-fi in the English and Science corridors. Pupils would have access once the move to the new school had been completed. This access had allowed the use of laptops and notebooks by departments for pupils' use and would negate the need for Faculty IT rooms in the new school.

There would be two types of access to the wi-fi. Managed access would allow staff and pupils to access their home drive and unmanaged access would allow them to access the internet on their own devices e.g. phones, ipads, tablets etc.

The new school would be completely stocked with new IT equipment including the more advanced smart boards which would now not require projectors. East Renfrewshire Council would supply notebooks for all pupils in SIMD 1 and 2.

The PVG policy was being reviewed.

The authority no longer had a contract system for the supply of school uniform items.

Catering for the quiz night was decided and allocated to volunteers.

Next meeting would be Monday 8th May.