

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

02/11/20

Present:

David McArthur (Chairperson) Fiona Johnston, David Frame, Mairi Frame, Anne McNaught, Cecilia Gary, Elaine Stewart, Evelyn Oliphant, Grant Maybury, Lisa Allan, Lorna Thomson, Lorraine More, Michelle Hyslop, Michelle Stewart, Nuzhat Uthmani, Pauline Bradley, Ross McKay, Teresa Hamilton, Hazel Dobie, Wendy Moultrie

Apologies: Julie Elliot, Nikki Winning, Julie Cameron, Sheila McArthur, Katharine Foye

Minutes: Proposed by Lorna Thomson, Seconded by Nikki Winning (TBC)

Head Teacher's Report:

- Thanks to parents for their support last week.
- Health and well-being - breast cancer event (wear it pink day) last week. A large amount of money was raised.
- Head Teacher shared an update on positive events across the school including pumpkin carving and kite-flying.
- Awareness of health and well-being of families, additional pressures coming up to Christmas - need to pull together as a community.
- Focus on raising attainment and closing the gap. Successful S1 homework club last week. There has been S1 pastoral interviews. S3 been invited along to silent study. Boot camp for S4, attendance is positive. S5/6 supported study session organised.
- Partnership has been secured with Education Scotland and a school in Indiana - keen to involve pupils.
- Feedback form ERC questionnaires was positive. Possibly not enough direction for healthy eating for pupils. A renewed focus on no bystanders and bullying. Parents also to be more involved in decisions and planning.
- Advice on home learning - encouraging parents to get involved in virtual learning
- Looking towards family friendly award - new award in East Renfrewshire Council
- Contingency planning was discussed. There is a plan in place for potential blended learning if it is necessary.
- S4/S5/S6 done well in wearing masks in class with new rule in place
- SQA have still to give further guidance on subject specific information.
- Supported study calendar to be put in place for S4
- Highers and Advanced Highers exams are planned as normal.
- Facebook page and purpose of platform was discussed.

Pauline Bradley

- Online parental workshops - google classroom format - to show parents how live learning works for pupils self-isolating at home
- One of the barriers are that parents may not know how live lessons work
- Form will be posted on bulletin to allow parents to choose what they would like to take part in
- Family friendly quiz night near Christmas - to involve parents and carers

Chairperson's Report:

- Discussions have been had about how to make the school's Facebook page more engaging and positive
- Problems with Parent Pay - could be beneficial if Staff monitoring in the canteen carried vouchers on them as opposed to having to go to the office.

Use of Funding

- Need more laptops within the school
- Received 20 chrome books from connect Scotland
- Possibility of iPads for every individual pupil to support learning
- School limited in technology - maths department requested for graphic laptops
- Fundraiser money could be used for an event after restrictions are lowered or something in the run up to Christmas

Theresa Hamilton - New Maths Marking Policy Trial

- Classes will now have mixed homework exercises instead of end of unit exercises with National 5 and Higher
- Homework will be marked using coloured highlighters to focus pupils with National 5 and Higher
- Allows pupils to focus on what they're doing well and also things that are incorrect instead of just an overall score
- Learners expected to make notes on what was good and make their corrections
- This way all pupils will take ownership of their own learning and do something with the feedback
- Encourages pupils to do well
- One mixed homework given out per month, followed up two weeks later by a multiple choice quiz based on the homework content and scores
- This will replace starters in class

Lisa Allan - Social Subjects Study Guide

- Encouraged to use acronyms, study cards, mind maps, structured mind maps (using dual-coding, images), revision clock, reading to learn, reverse highlighting, folding frenzy, colour coded case studies, the content knowledge 'Rubik's Cube', thinking quilt, hexagons, snakes and ladders, chatterboxes, revision connect 4, dominoes, speed dating, personification, 40 days of revision