



**MEARNS CASTLE HIGH SCHOOL
MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**

Meeting: Monday 2nd September 2019

Present: S Pryce (Chair), D Smith (Head Teacher), K Vallance (Vice-Chair/Secretary), C Dearie, I Phillips, A Rose, J Scott, P Birkin, S Hussain, A Finlay, S Sheikh, L Brown, L Donaldson, C Brown, S Sadiq, G Gass, E Morrison, M Johnston, J Wong, E Jones

Apologies: Cllr Bamforth, Cllr Swift, J Thomson, A Blair

1. Minutes of Last Meeting:

Accepted on the proposal of A Rose and seconded by K Vallance.

2. Matters Arising:

No matters arising from the previous minutes.

3. Correspondence:

No correspondence to address in the intervening period.

4. Head Teachers Report:

D Smith presented analysis of the SQA Exam Results for the 2018-2019 academic year. Main points as follows:

National 5 Exams	2019	2018
S4 Presentations @ N5 level	89.5%	92.1%
S4 Passes @ N5 level (National Average is 78.2%)	91.6%	93.1%
S4 (5 or more N5 passes)	82.5%	83.3%
S4 (8 or more N5 passes)	51.6%	58.8%
S4 (8 or more N5 "A" passes)	21.2%	23.5%

Higher Exams	2019	2018
S5 Presentations @ Higher level	91.6%	91.2%
S5 Passes @ Higher level (National Average is 74.8%)	89.9%	88.9%
S5 (3 or more Higher passes)	76.5%	75.8%
S5 (5 or more Higher passes)	54.3%	54.9%
S5 (5 "A" passes)	19.4%	17.1%

S6 Results	2019	2018
1 or more Level 7	43.7%	43.2%
5 or more Highers by end of S6	71.6%	70.4%

Gender Split - National 5	2019	2018
5 or more National 5 by end of S4 - Male	78.7%	77.5%
5 or more National 5 by end of S4 - Female	87.0%	88.6%

Gender Split - Highers	2019	2018
5 or more Highers by end of S5 - Male	46.2%	46.5%
5 or more Highers by end of S5 - Female	64.5%	59.1%



4. Head Teachers Report: /Cont'd

ERC Vocational Programme 2019

- Now about 100 students in programme within S5 and S6
- If included in the equivalent Highers results then 3 or more passes would rise from 76.5% to 77.8% and for 5 or more passes would rise from 54.3% to 55.7%
- Courses undertaken at various local Colleges. Most courses at Glasgow College and some now with South Lanarkshire College in East Kilbride. D Smith noted that buses are provided by ERC and tie in with the school timetables

S Pryce noted the increase in numbers and Higher results and praised all staff for their efforts.

D Smith noted that 98.63% of school leavers have a position destination after leaving MCHS. 75.8% of leavers going on to Higher Education establishments.

S Pryce queried whether having national exam results from East Renfrewshire could affect the University entrance process. D Smith noted that he is not aware of any specific issues or instances of this affecting entry and that the numbers of A passes very much varies from council areas. D Smith further noted that the amended UCAS deadline should not have any implications.

School Improvement Plan 2019-2020

- Developing the 3-18 Curriculum
- Tracking pupils progress through BGE
- D Smith outlined the key 16 bullet points for improvement
- Health & Wellbeing Strategy will be the next meeting for development

5. Finance Update:

A Rose confirmed that there is a balance of £1,977.97 in the PTA bank account.

6. PTA Update:

A Rose highlighted the Annual Raffle as the new initiative for the academic year and that attractive prize donations were required. The PTA could utilise some funds to purchase key raffle prizes but looking to all contacts to secure further prizes. Suggestions to be further reviewed at next meeting.

It was confirmed that the Annual Quiz Night will take place on 15th November 2019. Tables to be sponsored again as well as the individual quiz rounds.

I Phillips confirmed that the funding target for the year (both Quiz and Raffle) is the "Classroom in a Box". More specific details to be provided to inform parents and pupils.

Tickets for the Raffle to be sold at each Parents Evening (5nr in total). Dates for Parents Evenings to be confirmed to enable advance notice and a Schedule of Prizes to be signed off and available for first Parents Evening of the year.

7. Any Other Business:

D Smith noted that the S1 new start experience feedback has been very good. The Girls football team was noted as a particular highlight with significant positive feedback from pupils. S Pryce requested further feedback and thanked everyone for attending.

8. Next Meeting(s):

Monday 28th October 2019 @ 7pm
Monday 9th December 2019 @ 7pm