

Mearns Castle High School	Parent Council				
Office bearers in attendance	Manira Ahmad (Chair), Colette Mansbridge (Secretary), Ana Mesbahi (Vice Chair), Ashwini Rupesh (PTA joint chair), Preethi Sundarajan (PTA joint chair), Elizabeth Jones (treasurer), Eva Morrison (Auditor)				
Date of Meeting	10/06/24				
Attendees	Mr Clark (Headteacher), Mr Donnelly (Depute Headteacher), Laura Donaldson, Councillor Paul Edlin, Mark Carter, Roz Horne, Saj Saddique, Graeme Paterson, Shabana Hussain, Councillor Caroline Bamforth, Rob Rudy, Orli Schechter, Asif Majid.				
Venue	MCHS				
Apologies	Mrs J Thompson (RPMS Teacher),				
Actions	Date	Action	Name	Due	Outcome
	11/12/23	School to advise PC on what the school needs (funds available from PC)	Mr Donnelly and Mr Clark to discuss with PC	19/2/24	Sports equipment requested. School invites office bearers to attend school fund meeting. Ongoing.
	22/4/24	Suggestion to ask for parent donations of equipment to support specialist trips	PTA	10/6/24	To be discussed with PTA, as not at last meeting. Mr Clark proposes support from the school (Rebecca Henderson)
	10/06/24	Review distribution list of email list for agenda and minutes	Colette, Ana and Manira	Ongoing	List at PC meeting reviewed against recorded list on file.
	10/06/24	Increase parent council visibility	Office bearers	Ongoing	Office bearers and Mr Clark hosting a parents info on PC on 24 th June. PC will endeavour to provide minutes and comms for school website. Ongoing.
Completed Actions	Date	Action	Name	Due	Outcome
	11/12/23	Update to parent council section of the school website	Ana	19/2/24	Completed June 2024

10th June 2024 Minutes

1. Previous Minutes

Proposed: Manira

Seconded: Colette

2. Apologies: Jennifer Thompson (RPMS teacher)

3. Matters arising:

School update not been sent out yet. Due to be emailed out to parents on Tuesday 11th June.

4. Head Teacher's Report -Mr Clark

Events in school recently -school prom took place 3/6/24 at grand central hotel. Success, pupil behaviour exemplary. Staff of venue complemented pupil conduct.

New timetable started 3/6/24, s1 moved to S2 etc. Went smoothly.

Pupil executive selection – head girl Katie Morrison head boy Srihari Karri.

Pupil executive, captained by pupil leadership team. Sustainability captains to meet with Headteacher to create breakout areas -select furniture and layout of space. Clear improvement values and plans.

Parent feedback consultation. Only attended by 30 parents. 70 parents were booked. Low turnout thought to be due to the nice weather on the day.

Feedback from this event will help to form 3 year strategic plan. School welcomes the feedback from parents who attended. Senior leadership team are collating the responses.

In Aug, Mr Clark carries out review of year along with exam results. Draft school improvement priorities provided:

-Improve learner ownership of school improvement; a new pupil executive and school captains linked to school values with specific improvement projects for 2024/ 2025. Pupil parliament to help engage with pupils on their views. Majority of pupils feel that the school listen and act on their views. New role in pupil executive to help engage with views of pupils and talk to whole school community. QR codes to help pupils provide their views.

-Enhance research and enquiry based approach to learning -staff at the school will have opportunity to engage with professor Kate Wall at Strathclyde University. Staff will have access to research hub and chance to undertake professional learning.

-Further development of school curriculum – with professional learning, evaluation and planning involving all teachers in all curricular areas.

-Implement our new excellent experiences framework, providing a baseline for the highest quality experience in every classroom.

Continue to develop approaches to learning and teaching cycle in the BGE, fully utilising collaborative planning and moderation internally and with our established external partners.

Further develop approaches to planning for and profiling meta-skills, linking with all contexts for learning (key transferable skills -communication, teamwork, resilience).

5. Chairperson report

School senior leadership team have been extremely welcoming to parents. Depth of discussions can be limited by time.

Equitable access for pupils demonstrated by new Urdu teacher. Helpful engagement from school in explaining budget, process and restrictions to explain decisions.

Head Teacher weekly drop in sessions on Mon pm is helpful for parents and carers. Suggestion to vary day and time.

Head boy and Girl pupil leadership team attended one PC meeting. Plans to include pupil leadership team in the future.

Fundraising -thank you to PTA in raising funds for school. Thank you to out going PTA in sharing experience. Plans to increase parent engagement in future to invent new ways to fund raise.

World affairs – middle east conflict has caused lots of emotional stress to pupils and parents. Suggestion of making known to pupils who to turn to when struggling with world issues.

Increase in parent engagement. Parent council is responsibility of all parents, not just voluntary office bearers. Welcome new ideas of communication.

Vice Chairperson: this has been a learning year for all office bearers. We have done our best but we are still learning. Office bearers have received a lot of support from school.

Suggestion from parent forum to make first parent council meeting of 2024/ 2025 S1 themed to attract new parents. Include breakdown of how senior leadership team is formed and able to support pupils. Mr Clark is keen for parent council to clarify what is required and he will do his best to facilitate.

6. For approval:

a. French dictionaries (340 new pupils) APPROVED.

PTA is ongoing with prices and suppliers. Figure from last year £520.00, may be 10 to 15% over this. New in take is 340, much higher than last year. Price per dictionary may have increased. Agreed to support as the bank balance is healthy and this is a worthwhile resource for new S1 pupils. No objections raised.

b. connect membership -previously provided by council. Due to budget cuts, now have to self fund. School paid membership 2023/ 2024. Public liability insurance and guidelines. Parents can gain access to workshops. Price to renew is £173 for 2024/ 2025. APPROVED

7. Events in June:

a. School show (18/ 19/ 20th June)

b. P7 induction evening (18th June 5:45), happening same night as the school show, therefore timings are tight. Will have uniform suppliers present.

c. Parents night (24th June), held by parent council to increase parent engagement in the school. Informal way to meet parents and seek views on school and parent council. Mr Clark will attend for start of event. Hope to invite new S1 parents (CHECK OFFICE CAN EMAIL THESE PARENTS).

8. PTA update

Trying to source French dictionaries. Ongoing. Currently out of stock at the works.

Hope to organise quiz night or other social event. Restrictions on time the school is available -cut off is 10pm.

PTA is providing support on teas and coffee at school show 8:15pm (break). Volunteers are required. Please contact Ashwinin or Preethi.

9. Finance Report

Balance on account **£3418.61 credit**. Not much activity this year. Healthy intake of fundraising money and low expenditure. £520.00 for french dictionaries last academic year. Accounts have been audited by Eva Morrison and are agreed by office bearers -Manira and Ana.

10. Appointment of office bearers:

Chair: Manira Ahmad-would like to continue, seconded by Colette

Vice Chair: Ana Mesbahi -would like to continue, seconded by Manira

Secretary: Colette stepping down, **position remains vacant**

Auditor: Eva Morrison -would like to continue, seconded by Ana

Treasurer: Liz stepping down, **position remains vacant**

PTA: Ashwini Rupesh, would like to continue, seconded by Preethi

PTA: Preethi Sundarajan, would like to continue, seconded by Ashwini

11. Suggested dates of meetings for next year (to be confirmed with council via school office):

26th August 2024

7th October 2024

9th December 2024

24th February 2025

28th April 2025

9th June 2025

12. Any other business (AOB)

None at this time.

Date of Next Meeting 26th August 2024 7:00pm to 8:30pm, Mearns Castle High School.