

St Ninian's Parent Council



Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting held on Monday, 13th June 2016

Parent Members Present	M Ward J Mackie Patricia Burns	P McGrotty D Manini Joe McLachlan
School Staff Present	J Docherty (HT) J Cumming	J Fuchs M McKean
Other		
Apologies	R Convery (Church Rep) A McGowan	G Boyle Cncllr Fletcher

Welcome & Prayer

M Ward welcomed all to the St Ninian's High School Parent Council ("the PC") and started the meeting with a prayer.

Previous Minutes

Proposed, J Mackie. Seconded, D Manini

Director of Education's Report to the Education Committee on Denominational (Catholic) School Places

Following the last PC meeting M. Ward had written to the Director of Education, Mrs Shaw confirming the position of the PC and requesting she attend the PC. Mrs Shaw had subsequently contacted Mr Ward by telephone advising that the work being carried out currently was analysis and no firm proposals would be presented at this stage, requesting that she be excused from attending the PC meeting which Mr Ward agreed to.

The Director had subsequently published a paper on 3rd June 2016 and which was presented to the Education Committee on the 9th June 2016 which was for information only, not a consultation proposal. The director agreed to come back with a Paper at the Next Education committee meeting due on 25.08.16. The report noted that there was a capacity issue at St Ninian's High School

The Education Committee held their meeting on 9th June 2016 and Father Boyle attended. The feedback received from this meeting from Father Doyle, through Dorothy Graham, is that there is a political will to try and find a working solution acceptable to the Catholic Church.

A subsequent meeting with Dorothy Graham, who is taking over from Father Boyle, and M. Ward and other parent council chairs discussed this issue.

The next Education Committee meets on 25th August and expect papers for that will go on their website 19th August 2016.

M. Ward, along with other cluster parent council chairs, has been invited to a meeting with Mrs Shaw on 22nd June 2016 with the Director and would like to hear what views the PC should be taking to this meeting.

A discussion was held around :

- information the PC has requested regarding new intake numbers has still not been made available and therefore it is not clear which years will have a potentially higher intake. It was noted that these questions were asked in January and answers have still not been forthcoming and that the time has come to formally request this information.
- The points were also raised around Church involvement and the position on admission at the point of oversubscription.

Head Teacher's Report

Mr Doherty passed around an end of year update "Our Vision for All." This document is very distinctive although not unique and centres around ; values, attitude, blessings and aspirations.

Mr Docherty also highlighted the following :

- 24 young people attended a conference organised by the Diocese to encourage teachers within Catholic schools
- There was a Pilgrimage to Whithorn on 12th June,
- Emphasis on children putting Christ at the centre of everything they do
- Care of young people
- Celebration of their faith: Salesian group of Nuns working with 5th year.
- Beginning and ending assemblies with prayer
- Staff and Parish Priests were commended for their continued support.
- Pupils were praised for doing so well within the school in many areas
- Mr Doherty requested that it may be worthwhile for the PC to request from MSPs what is being done to help pupils within ERC who are in a disadvantaged position.

- Trips being held :
 - Berlin
 - Ardeche
 - Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Award
 - Aid to Church in Need Rally
- Mr Doherty also highlighted how it has been noted within the community, the excellent behaviour of students within St Ninian's HS and that the Bank Manager from a local bank, and a customer, had taken the time to write to him commending them
- Great term : exams went well and children very positive
- Thanks to teachers who regularly attending meetings outwith school hours and for their support and for that too of the Parent Council

Chair's Report

- Education Committee Meeting had been held but no minutes were available as yet.
- St Clare's will be the name of the new primary school in Newton Mearns
- No feedback on the Constitution
- The PC was asked to consider how we could encourage more parents to become involved with the Parent Council
- Mr Ward had the pleasure of attending the 6th Year Mass and graduation and commended the school on an excellent climax to a school career
- Mr Ward had also been on the Pilgrimage to Whithorn and again this demonstrated the commitment of the school staff to the ongoing spiritual life of the school
- Finally, Mr Ward gave his thanks to Mr Docherty, the depute headteachers, other teaching and non-teaching staff for another outstanding school year and for the continual development of the faith community

Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 12 September 2016.