**Parent Council Meeting 20th October 2015**

Present: Paul Canning, Patricia Scott, Ian McLean, Keith Fergus, Louise Wilkie, Julie Park, Karen Wilson, Gary Collins, Helen Byrne, Pauline Friel, Gordon Jones.

Apologies: Derek Cassidy, A Goldberg, L Young, T Stobo, Lorraine Griffiths, Frances Woods, Christopher Reeve

1. Meeting was opened by Paul Canning who led the opening prayer.
2. Apologies noted for those who could not attend.
3. Introduction of head boy and girl

Joe & Robyn were introduced by Mrs Scott. Both gave a brief overview of what they have been involved in so far. Fourth years have been included this year on the committees. There are seven committees with Senior Prefects on each committee. They also gave an insight into the Student Leadership Programme.

1. Previous minutes accepted.
2. No actions from previous minutes.
3. Correspondence

* Equalities Forum – there were presentations from St John’s / St Thomas, next meeting is in Jan 2016
* National Parent Forum meeting on 14th November – Education for all. Anyone wishing to attend please contact Paul Canning.
* SCES information, forwarded to all by e-mail.

1. Mrs Scott gave a presentation on results from last year, also attainment patterns across the years. Results were excellent throughout the school and were great in comparison against the virtual school. The vocational programme is extensive, details can be found on the website. Considerable improvement in boys and girls results over the past year.
2. Mr McLean gave an overview on Insight, detailing benchmarks against virtual school. Insight captures not only SQA awards but other awards as well. Insight is a fairer way of providing info on achievements. In the newsletter there is a link where parents can notify school of pupils’ achievements outside of school.
3. SCES, Paul Canning attended at Carfin, this was promoting catholic schools across the authority. Taking creed and breaking it down into individual elements and relating these to the development of children in their education. Details on SCES website, feedback can be given.
4. Feedback from the Parent Council Chairs Meeting on 7th October

* Upgrade to take place of online payment system, hoping to use to transfer from primary to secondary school.
* East Renfrewshire is one of the best performing authorities, with regards to suspensions/exclusions. Link on the e-mail sent to all from Paul Canning ref the role of educational phsychologist.
* There is a link on e-mail from Paul Canning in relation to a petition regarding the new Barrhead High School.

1. Fundraising suggestions:

* Christmas CD’s – further discussions regarding this to be held within school.
* Nylon bags – need to make money from CD’s before material can be purchased for bags.

1. AOB

* The recent bomb scare in the school was mentioned. Paul Canning thanked Mrs Scott for the way the school handled the situation. Discussions are ongoing within the school as to contingency plan with regards to what would happened if this incident occurred again and the weather was not good.
* Mr McLean mentioned the Diocesan Synod. Crucial role within the school to promote the church and help and support pupils. Synod is from Easter to summer next year, this is about engaging with people who have maybe fallen away from church.
* Keith Fergus mentioned the opening of the War Memorial in Neilston on 7th November at 14:30, all welcome to attend.
* AGM will be at the next meeting on 24th November.