

COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR Department of Education & Children's Services Minute/Note of Meeting		TITLE	Parent Council Meeting			
		DATE	Monday 27th May 2019	TIME	6.30pm	
		VENUE	Sir E Scott School			
		DISTRIBUTION	All Members & MC Ferguson, SEO.			
Present:	Alison Macdonald, Rhoda Campbell, Aileen MacSween, Mairi Macleod, Kirsty Donnelly, Cllr John Mitchell, Pauline Macleod, Lucy Toor, Cllr Finlay Cunningham,					
Apologies:	Katie Ann Mackinnon, Kathryn Campbell, Andrew Coghill, Rebekah Globe, Donna Macleod, Fiona Porteous, Donella Barker, Cllr Paul Finnegan, Rebecca Passmore.					
Absent:						
Agenda Item				Action	Who?	When?
1	Welcome	A Macdonald welcomed everyone to the meeting.				
2	Apologies	As noted above.				
3	Minute of 22nd April 2019	The minute of the meeting held on Monday 22 nd April was agreed to be an accurate record – proposed: R Campbell seconded: A Macdonald		Email to MC Ferguson SEO. Upload onto website	MCM	ASAP
4	Matters Arising	MVP Some members of the Parent Council met with S Kane and A Johnson for an MVP taster session on Tuesday 14 th May. AMD said overall the principal seemed very good, although they did have concerns regarding the aspect of bullying which seemed to concentrate on transgender and homophobia. LT stated this would have an effect on children with different opinions and beliefs. These concerns were raised at the Steering Group Meeting which was attended by Chris Robinson, an independent consultant, in developing the PSE curriculum in our schools and Isobel Steele, Health Promotion Officer. It was agreed to adapt the materials issued by the Scottish Government, taking into consideration these two areas of concern. MVP training for senior pupils will take place on Monday 3 rd and Tuesday 4 th June. Isobel Steele will be present with pupils during the first few sessions in August, although she is not a member of staff, she has a good relationship with pupils. AMS thanked PC Members for their input.				
		Water Bottles AMS contacted Castlebay School and enquired about the bottles they recently purchased for their pupils. Bottles were insulated and personalised costing £12.99 each and paid for by school funds. AMS will get an update from R Miller regarding the possibility of Scottish Water providing free bottles for pupils.		Get an update from R Miller regarding water bottles for pupils from Scottish Water.	AMS	ASAP

4	Matters Arising...cont'd	<p>Canteen RC provided an update from Diane Campbell regarding concerns previously raised by members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles Macleod was awarded the meat contract for the next 2 years. • Menus will be updated twice a year, once their software has been updated. Next update will be in August 2019 which will include vegetarian options as well as fruit 3 times a week for dessert. • The issue regarding bacon will be addressed when the menu is changed in August • Chicken is sourced from Brakes via the Grillburger and halal chicken is sourced from Charles Macleod. <p>All present were happy with these responses, no further concerns were raised.</p>			
	<p>Vision, Values and Aims AMS shared the school Vision, Values and Aims with members following consultation with pupils, staff, Parent Council and some partners. MM suggested an addition to the school Ethos. 'To create a caring and welcoming place where we are all included and supported to develop, learn and fulfil our potential'. This will be translated into Gaelic by Mrs R Maclean, one this has been completed it will be displayed across the school.</p>	Display Visions Values and Aims across the school once completed.	AMS	August 2019	
	<p>Vouchers for School Leavers PC have purchased 14 £20 Amazon Vouchers for school leavers, these will be presented to pupils at the Leavers Assembly on Thursday 30th May by R Campbell on behalf of the Parent Council.</p>				
	<p>Surface Go Provision AMS stated the Surface Go provision for next session is still to be clarified by Mr B Chisholm. K Matheson, ICT Co-ordinator has requested feedback from pupils and staff regarding the pilot scheme. As senior pupils are currently on study leave this has not been possible. AMS stated the devices have been invaluable to senior pupils. Microsoft Education Training is taking place for some members of staff between Tuesday 29th and Thursday 30th May, with training in school on Thursday. It might be possible to get feedback from pupils and staff then. Although It may be beginning of next session before the provision for pupils is decided.</p>				
	<p>Correspondence AMS passed on members' comments regarding incidences of bullying, violence and abuse of social media. She mentioned this was discussed at the recent Head Teacher's Meeting, although she is still waiting for clarification from Mr B Chisolm regarding this. The Education Department are reviewing the School Media Policy, guidelines will be issued to schools regarding this. Schools can update their own policies in the interim if that is a requirement.</p>				
	<p>Lunchtime Chess Club AMS spoke with S1 – S3 pupils regarding lunchtime clubs. S3 are keen to organise a survey for pupils to gauge their views on lunchtime clubs. AMS is keen to promote lunchtime clubs in the school and would also like to see parent volunteers assist with this.</p>				

5	Treasurer Report	<p>AC was not present, therefore there was no update of accounts. AMD had received a request from the Sgoil Àraich for £300 which will go towards the cost of their annual trip. All present agreed to this request.</p> <p>Funding FC mentioned Tighean Innse Gall in Stornoway who may be able to assist with funding school activities. AMS mentioned Mr Adam Nicolson, owner of the Shiants, previously gave regular donations to Scalpay School fund, when the Hebridean Princess would visit Harris. He did contact the school a few years ago, but no payment has been sent to the school.</p>	<p>Pay £300 towards SA trip.</p> <p>Inform staff about Tighean Innse Gall Contact Mr A Nicolson regarding school fund donations</p>	<p>AC/DC</p> <p>AMS</p> <p>AMS</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
6	Head Teacher's Information	<p>Staffing AMS provided an update on the current staffing situation. A letter will be issued to parents tomorrow with the following information</p> <p><i>Sgoil Àraich</i> Currently fully staffed. F Mackenzie started on Monday 20th May, H Macleod is covering lunch times (8-hour post).</p> <p><i>Primary</i> AMS is waiting for confirmation regarding the staffing allocation for next session. A Gaelic Medium Teaching post and also the P4-7 English post is yet to be confirmed. L Smith, Education Department is currently dealing with Primary Staffing for next session.</p> <p><i>Secondary</i> AMS provided an update on the current probationer teachers. Mr M Atkinson will take up a fulltime position in the Technical department in August. Mr W Macleod, Technical department will be transferring to the Nicolson Institute as he is taking on responsibility for the Engineering Foundation Apprenticeships. 0.4FTE post will therefore be required in the Technical Department, which will be advertised. We have been allocated 2 probationer teachers for next session in Maths and English/Gaelic. In addition, a 0.6FTE post will still be required for Maths next session The History post will be advertised as an 0.6FTE as a full time post is not required. This was discussed at length. If there are no applicants for this position, AMS will suggest it be re-advertised as a fulltime post with a dual qualification, possibly Modern Studies. AMS has made the 1.39FTE staffing reduction for next session that was required by the Education Department. Parents will be informed when the final decision regarding staffing has been made.</p> <p>New Secondary Timetable The new timetable will commence on Monday 3rd June. Hopefully, this timetable will require very little amendments for next session.</p>			

6	Head Teacher's Information..... cont'd	<p>Recent Achievements and Successes AMS mentioned pupils' recent achievements and successes throughout the last session. Overall it was a very good year where pupils participated in Dileab, IOHD Harris Tweed Competition and Film G. The YPI event was very successful and pupils were praised for their presentations. S3 pupils commented to AMS that participating in this had increased their confidence. The YPI opportunity will remain with the S3 year group in conjunction with English. Pupils have also had individual successes in a range of sporting events, Anish Toor in Mountain Biking, Rachel Johnstone and Jessica Macleod in football. She also praised pupils' musical talents. Pupils in the Primary department also continue to achieve success in their opportunities, curricular and wider achievement. <i>JGM left the meeting at this point – 7.30pm</i></p> <p>Microsoft Education Training AMS provided details of the Microsoft Education Training for members of staff who have opted to be IT leaders in the school. She explained this is as a result of the IT Upgrade and how to make good use of the equipment staff and pupils have been provided with. Following this training staff will discuss projects which will be incorporated into the School Improvement Plan.</p> <p>PSE Programme There is a Working Group in the local authority focussing on this. A letter regarding PSE and Social Education/Health in schools has been issued to Faith leaders for their views. AMS stated the authority have received feedback from Faith leaders regarding this matter. AMD and MM mentioned these letters had not been received by the Church of Scotland, Tarbert or the North Harris Free Church. AMS will check with Mr W Macdonald, Head of Education as to who the letters were sent to. She stated the letter is quite generic and doesn't seem to include the specific Scottish Government Guidance on the teaching of Social Education and Health. AMD mentioned she had contacted Nicola Macdonald, CNES stating the Parent Council are happy to comment on this matter and is waiting for documentation to be sent to her.</p> <p>Upcoming Events AMS provided details of all upcoming events in the next couple of weeks. Parent helpers will be required to serve refreshments for the RAF Event and the Sgoil Àraich & Primary Prizegiving Ceremony. As previously agreed parents' names will be drawn at random to help at these events.</p> <p>End of Session Review AMS provided details of the various fundraising events that have taken place recently. A large amount of money has been raised by pupils and staff in the local community for school events and various charities. Displaying fundraising achievements in the school was discussed.</p>	<p>Check with Mr William Macdonald as to who the letters were sent to.</p> <p>Select parent helpers for upcoming events and contact them.</p>	<p>AMS</p> <p>AMD/ RC/MCM</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
----------	--	--	---	-----------------------------------	-------------------------

6	Head Teacher's Information..... cont'd	End of Session Review..... continued AMS thanked members of the Parent Council for their help and support throughout the session. She stated it was disappointing that parent members' attendance at meetings wasn't more consistent, as there has been strong and effective representation from all members when available to attend. Activities Week This will take place week beginning Monday 24 th June over 4 days. Events for Friday 28 th are yet to be decided. Year Planner The year planner was discussed briefly. It was suggested fundraising events be arranged in time so they can be entered on the planner. All present agreed the Fundraising Quiz will take place on Friday 20 th March 2020.			
7	School Improvement Planning 2019 - 2020	The School Improvement Planning template was issued to members as a basis for discussion. This has been discussed at length with staff and pupils. AMS mentioned pupils will be participating in more leadership groups i.e. RRSA, Eco-Committee and E-Safety Group. The PSE programme needs to be more structured. Members were encouraged to email any suggestions regarding this template to AMS as soon as possible. AMS hopes to have the document completed by the end of session.	Submit responses to AMS	Parent Council Members	ASAP
8	AOCB	There was no AOCB.			
9	Date of Next meeting	AMD thanked all members and AMS for their support and input throughout the session. AMD thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.05pm. The next meeting of the Parent Council will be the AGM which will take place on Monday 2nd September 2019 at 6.30pm.			