

<div>COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR</div> <div>Department of Education & Children’s Services</div> <div>Minute/Note of Meeting</div>		TITLE	Parent Council Meeting				
		DATE	Monday 24 th April 2023	TIME	6.30pm		
		VENUE	Sir E Scott School Staffroom				
		DISTRIBUTION	All Members & MC Ferguson, Head of Education.				
Present:	Andrew Coghill, Andy Murray (Head Teacher), Ruth Miller, Jenna Morrison, Rhoda Campbell, Alison MacDonald, Caroline Chaffer, Cllr P Finnegan,						
Apologies:	Pauline Macleod (DHT), Adam Johnson (PT), Kirsty Donnelly (DHT), Ian Murdo MacDonald, Cllr Grant Fulton, Kathleen Duce, Donna Macleod, Gordon Macleod, Rachel MacDonald, Donella Barker, Anna Morrison, Louisa MacDougall.						
Agenda Item					Action	Who?	When?
1	Welcome	AC welcomed everyone to the meeting, due to the SQA exams the meeting took place in the staffroom.					
2	Apologies	Apologies were noted above.					
3	Minute of 13 th March 2023	The minute of the meeting held on 13.03.23 was agreed to be an accurate record – proposed: Caroline Chaffer seconded: Jenna Morrison.					
4	Matters Arising	Promotional Video AMU said this is currently on hold as Martin Macleod, Multi Media unit is focussing on prioritising filming for the Gaelic Café. Once this has been completed he will commence the Promotional video for the school. He confirmed there is a blanket approval for all pupils for filming purposes.					
		Young Enterprise Funding Request As senior students are now focussing on exams, the Young Enterprise Group did not re-submit their funding request to the Parent Council. AC said they are more than welcome to re-apply next session for this funding. AMU stated they recently did a presentation for local businesses and secured a large number of orders, which will go towards covering their costs.					
		Fundraising and Events Subgroup RC provided details of parent volunteers who had joined the Fundraising and Events Subgroup and are willing to help out, although they are not members of the Parent Council. A member of the Parent Council is required to co-ordinate this group. After a brief discussion it was decided RC will ask the group for a volunteer co-ordinator.			• Ask sub group for a volunteer co-ordinator.	RC	ASAP
5	Head Teacher’s Report	Staffing. AMU gave a brief overview of staff absences, and details of staff who have returned to work.			•		
		SQA Exams SQA exams commenced today. AMU provided details of the arrangements in place for pupils on study leave. Overall the whole school work well together to accommodate pupils sitting exams.			•		

5	Head Teacher's Report..... ...continued	Upcoming Events The following events are due to take place over the coming weeks; S3 Work Experience – Week commencing Monday 8 th May Transition Day's – Wednesday 17 – Friday 19 th May YPI Initiative Final – Friday 26 th May New Timetable – Monday 5 th June Leavers Assembly and Prom – Friday 9 th June	•		
		Strategic Equity Fund AMU gave details of successful bids to the Strategic Equity Fund. The Breakfast Club has commenced, primary pupils are attending, although the secondary pupils are more reluctant to attend. KD has been working with North Harris Trust making sensory gardens throughout the school. This is ideal for pupils with Additional Support Needs.	•		
		Primary Reports/Parents Evening Due to staff absence there is a slight delay in the scheduled dates. The Primary Reports will be issued on Friday 5 th May, Parents Evening will be on Thursday 11 th May. Correspondence will be sent to parents regarding this.	•		
		RSHP AC was asked to raise this matter by a number of parents who are concerned. AMU realises this is a sensitive topic, he has been sent the revised materials to look at, this will be followed by a consultation with the school community in August. PF mentioned a council meeting due to be held on Tuesday 25 th April regarding this matter. The purpose of the meeting is to seek a competent amendment which could avoid the use in Western Isles schools of the Scottish Government's RSHP materials, which were felt by many to be inappropriate. PF explained that since the educational outcomes have been set by the Scottish Government, schools and local authorities have a legal obligation to teach to these outcomes, but not necessarily to make use of the Government's own RSHP materials, provided the outcomes are met. Meeting the outcomes is also a requirement for HMI Inspectors. PF gave details of the November 2020 Amendment in the Comhairle which was noted in the minutes of that meeting, at which it was agreed to recommend the use of the Roman Catholic materials (which are also approved by the Scottish Government) but that the RSHP outcomes should still be taught in all Western Isles schools. Material to be used in schools was previously shared with Councillors and Faith leaders. This was discussed at length. Areas of concern are the materials being age appropriate, impact it will have on children and families and the option for parents to withdraw their children from lessons. AMU will clarify and confirm with parents regarding withdrawing their children from lessons. AMU said it is important to convey the rationale to parents and come to some consensus. He said schools may have some flexibility to adjust the outcome levels. He said it is important to recognise parents' opinions, however it is important that pupils have the correct information to keep themselves safe in all situations.	•		

5	Head Teacher's Report..... ...continued	Work Experience AMD queried the possibility of S6 pupils participating in a broad spectrum of Work Experience next session, possibly in Stornoway. AMU has been working with KD and Ross Miller, DYW Co-ordination to arrange work experience for senior pupils.	•		
6	SQA Update	This matter was previously discussed.			
7	Financial Update	AC provided an update of accounts. The current balance on 24.04.23 is £2421.22. They are waiting for a donation for the stepping challenge recently undertaken by members of the local community.	•		
8	Date of Next Meeting	The next meeting will take place on Monday 19 th June 2023 at 6.30pm.	•		
9	Close of Meeting	AC thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 7.25pm.	•		