

Minutes - Parent Council Meeting and AGM, 17 Sept 2018, 6.30 p.m., Hillhead High School

Parent Council Member: Sylvia Warnecke (Chair), Catriona Futter; Bernie Mitchell, Chirsty Hamilton;

Chiara Cipollari (deputy chair), Tariq Ishaq,

Teaching Staff: Karen McAlaney (Head Teacher); Steven Neil;

Parent forum: Gordana Nesterovic; Andrea Fisher; Yuhai He; Claire MacLaverty; Karen Leeson; Zarina Shafiq; plus 15 members of the parent forum

Apologies: Jolene Crawford

Topic	To do
<p>1 – Skills Development Scotland (SDS) update</p> <p>Mhairi from SDS presented new tools now available on My World of Work (MWoW) website; plus information on SDS website specifically for parents. Focus on career management skills that will inform career decisions of pupils. Important for all pupils to register with website to gain access to all the tools including strengths and job finder, personal statement generator etc. Promotional event within HHS S1 – S6 planned for first week in Oct to focus on registering every pupil with MWoW, and generate engagement and understanding of benefits of site. Also to be widely promoted on social media to prompt wide engagement of parents. See Marketplace tab on MWoW site with lists of Uni/college open days and work experience opportunities.</p> <p>Contact Mhairi for further information.</p> <p>Item 2, Fruition workshops, was postponed till next meeting.</p>	<p>Would be useful to have a summary sheet of key information that is on MWoW website available for parents with links as a quick reference guide. Mhairi asked to produce this.</p> <p>Information with links to Uni/colleges via pathways link on HHS website – see https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/s56-into-higher-education/ucas-and-royal-conservatoire-dates-for-your-diary/ and https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/scottish-university-and-college-open-days</p> <p>Also useful to list all twitter accounts for all depts within HHS in one place for parents to have an at-a-glance guide for who to contact.</p>
<p>3 – AGM</p> <p>Sylvia, PC chair, introduced herself, and PC guidelines as per the constitution. PC Chair report discussed, which outlined breadth and range of PC involvement over past year, and key areas for coming year where parents can contribute. Preparation of election of PC members: Essential posts to fill include Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer. PC members offering to stand named as: Sylvia, Chiara, Tariq, Gordana Nesterovic, Alasdair Downes, Bernie (co-opted member), Chirsty, Karen Leeson, Andrea Fisher, Jolene, Catriona. Voting on posts to take place at next PC meeting. Discussed importance of any members of Parent Forum raising any concerns re school life at PC meeting, or via email to Chair.</p> <p>Questions from Parent Forum members on fundraising, and constitution – see action points.</p> <p>Discussed best method of obtaining information from school – various options are used by school including GroupCall; most up to date information available via Twitter @HillheadHS</p>	<p>Develop with SLT key areas for fundraising to facilitate targeted grant applications.</p> <p>Constitution available on website and will be circulated by Chair prior to next meeting.</p>
<p>4 – Parent Council Meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Minutes of previous meeting approved. Available on website.HT report available on website. Lengthy discussion of same, with a number of issues and questions raised. Mr Neil shared his work with Tree of Knowledge on mindfulness and helping pupils deal with exam stress. Plan is to have pupils trained in	

<p>and leading on mindfulness. PC Barry Hynds is the Campus Police Officer at HHS. Plan is to invite him to speak at future PC meeting, to discuss his role, and concerns re community, social media, drugs etc. Also future plans to arrange an evening for parents with Police input to discuss social media etc and how to best support pupils. Availability of school uniform, clothing and stationery to any family requiring additional financial support. Handled very discreetly via Pastoral Care, contact them or PC chair for more info. Senior ties – ongoing issue with suppliers. Should be available very soon. Bernie acknowledged excellent HT report and asked about main point of contact for each year group. Pastoral Care are first point of contact, and each pupil has their own Pastoral Care teacher. See Pastoral care staff. School handbook being updated, will be available by Christmas. Supported study – timetable will be sent out beginning 1 October for 6 weeks for S5 pupils. More general support at other times, with more information coming soon. Attendance will be encouraged with tracking of attendance with a view to attendance prizes. Piloting digital homework monitoring with Show My Homework. Wider achievement, MTA and clubs now on website.</p> <p>c) Clothing grant £110 available for those requiring additional financial support, via Pastoral Care teacher.</p> <p>d) Concern re lack of support from SQA for some areas of maths curriculum. Mrs McAlaney reinforced role of maths dept within HHS is very strong. But there remain issues around the Nat 5 Curriculum. Chiara raised issue pupils joining HHS mid curriculum from a different country with a different curricular system, following a question from a Parent Forum member.</p> <p>e) Wifi – not currently available within HHS. Will be introduced as tablets are rolled out across school, but not at present as HHS are last on the list for this.</p>	<p>Parent Forum members always welcome to help with supported study to reduce pressure on teaching staff.</p> <p>See Wider Achievement</p> <p>Mentors are available within the school to support pupils and help them integrate into Scottish system.</p>
<p>5 – AOB</p> <p>Sylvia drew everyone's attention to the Alliance Francaise at Park Circus, who are offering classes for S1 to S6. Search for Alliance Francaise online for further information.</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting: 29 October 2018, 6.30 p.m., Chinese Hub at Hillhead High School. This will include elections to PC positions.</p> <p>The minutes are posted also on the PC website.</p>	<p>Please get in touch with the parent council chair in the meantime with any questions/comments you might have by email s.warnecke@open.ac.uk</p>