

## Minutes - Parent Council Meeting and AGM, 4 Feb 2018, 6.30 p.m., Hillhead High School

- **Parent Council Member:** Sylvia Warnecke (Chair), Catriona Futter; Tariq Ishaq, Jolene Crawford, Ali Downes, Karen Leeson
- **Teaching Staff:** Karen McAlaney (head Teacher); Steven Neil; Mr Gemmill
- **Parent forum:** 6 members
- **Apologies:** Bernie Mitchell

Topic	To do
<p><b>1 – PC meeting options/Minutes of last meeting</b></p> <p>The option of alternating PC meetings between Mondays and Tuesdays was discussed. This would allow those who can never attend on Mondays to come and avoid potential clashes with PC meetings at various Primary schools. The next meeting will be scheduled for a Tuesday to see how this works.</p> <p>Minutes of last meeting were approved with no other matters arising.</p>	<p>Review after 6 month to assess the impact on attendance of alternating the evenings.</p>
<p><b>2 – HT Report</b></p> <p>Head Teacher's briefing – see report on website. Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme for Easter study camp being developed along with support package for S5 and S6</li> <li>• Appreciation expressed from PC about amount of work being put into Senior Phase support. Positive impact of GLOW acknowledged as encouraging and promoting greater responsibility on the part of pupils.</li> <li>• HHS nominated for GTCS Excellence Award; work being done in preparation for this linked to school values.</li> <li>• 6 new table tennis tables in PE dept, raising profile and availability of table tennis. General discussion of school activities available and how to find this information.</li> <li>• Period poverty group now providing information and education to both girls and boys at specific assemblies; to explain reasons for the scheme, and that this is a poverty issue that affects the whole of society. More info re. period poverty on website.</li> <li>• Very positive work of Eco Group</li> <li>• Money raised from Strictly will be used partly to fund senior prom and partly to S6 chosen charity</li> </ul>	<p>Retweet activities booklet again</p>

<p><b>3 – School's use of social media</b></p> <p>Agenda item from Bernie in his absence: “ To commend the School's and Faculties' use of social media, particularly Twitter, in promoting Good Practice and Achievement across the full range of HHS's Academic, Sporting and Social activities. There is a wonderful showcase of material – the renaissance of modern languages, MTA gymnastics, The Anne Frank week, Social studies work; no- one can be left in any doubt as to the Commitment of the School, its SMT and staff to the well being of the pupils.”</p> <p>This was acknowledged by all.</p>	
<p><b>4 – Fundraising for school playground equipment</b></p> <p>Jolene has very kindly done some research into available sources of funding. Most require a specific project and therefore a discussion was had on options. Top priority is new basketball equipment, and possibly recycling bins.</p>	<p>Mr Gemmill agreed to find out what was needed to fit this from the facilities manager of the school, and liaise with Jolene. Jolene will investigate options for applying for funding for general playground equipment.</p>
<p><b>5 – Impact of teacher's pay dispute</b></p> <p>Raised by Chiara. From Karen: the proposed pay rise from John Swinney in Jan this year was rejected by the EIS council. The offer is now with EIS Union members to vote to accept or reject the deal. If accepted, there will be no further action. If the deal is rejected, there could then be a ballot for industrial action. Timescales for this remain unclear, likely to take a few months. The impact of industrial action was discussed and what contingency plans could be made, but the discussions are at an early and uncertain phase and therefore much is unknown.</p>	<p>Karen will keep the PC informed of developments.</p>
<p><b>6 – AOB</b></p> <p>a. Groupcall app – a question was asked via Facebook as to whether the school would consider using ShowMyHomework App as this is more intuitive to use? Groupcall has been initiated Glasgow wide by the whole council authority and deals with different tasks to ShowMyHomework. There have been some teething problems, and staff shortages have meant a delay in reviewing the use of Groupcall within HHS. There was also a general discussion of the pros (increased digital awareness, access to different technologies) and cons (increased screen time, loss of writing and communication skills, poor ergonomics) of tablets being introduced within HHS in 2021. Key issues are what the tablets will be used</p>	<p>Karen agreed to ask various other schools who have had Groupcall for longer how they resolved teething problems.</p>

<p>for, careful monitoring of their use, and learning from schools who are first to have the scheme rolled out.</p> <p>b. Notre Dame High school consultation re going co-ed – the papers will be ready by the end of January and go to committee meeting in February for approval. If approved, the consultation can then start. This could have a big impact on the demographic of HHS.</p> <p>c. Bridge the Gap project had asked if parents would be interested in a series of family activities and workshops, offered for free. Discussion about likely uptake of this, and the possibility of linking a workshop to a pre-existing activity ie the Christmas Fayre.</p>	<p>As/when the consultation goes ahead, the link will be shared via HHS with parents for their consideration.</p> <p><b>Post-meeting note:</b> Sylvia has been in touch with Notre Dame parents who have instigated a consultation on the school's status as an all-girls school – the consultation will go ahead as from 18<sup>th</sup> March until May 2019 (more info at next PC meeting)</p> <p>Sylvia agreed to contact them to ask re this.</p> <p><b>Post-meeting note:</b> Bridge the Gap have agreed to attend the next Christmas Fayre and run a workshop (they will have a new programme PC/the school can select from)</p>
<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> <b>TUESDAY 19 March, 6.30 p.m., Chinese Hub at Hillhead High School.</b></p> <p><b>The minutes are posted also on the PC website.</b></p>	<p><b>Please get in touch with the parent council chair in the meantime with any questions/comments you might have by email <a href="mailto:s.warnecke@open.ac.uk">s.warnecke@open.ac.uk</a></b></p>