**Calderhead High School**

**Parent Council Meeting**

**Thursday 7th February 2019**

**In Attendance:-**

Claire Whyte, Jennifer Hayburn, Alison Barr, Audra McPhee, Elaine Byrne, John Robertson, Martin McCulloch, Lynn Prentice, Gordon Muir, Susan Duncanson

**Apologies:-**

Corrina Campbell, Fiona Forrest, Nana McLean, Maxine Paterson, Kenneth Stevenson, Claire Quigley

**Correspondence**

No correspondence other than the emails received from Maureen Moore re PC training/information courses

**Chairperson**

Advised that Linsey had I informed John and Claire that she was, with immediate effect, resigning as Chairperson as her daughter, who was in 6th year had now left school.

Alison volunteered to fill the role until the end of term – our last meeting in June being the AGM where we can elect next years Chair and Secretary. Claire will send Maureen Moore an update.

**Head Teacher Report**

As usual, John provided the report prior to the meeting.

Issues discussed.

Staffing – no requests for probationers this year. 5 positions declared.

Budget overspend – big factor in this is pupil transport for after school clubs/supported study and work experience.

Teachers give up their own time to run after clubs/supported study (most of the PC did not realise teachers weren’t paid for this!) and it’s felt it is unfair to deny pupils who don’t live in Shotts these benefits so Harthill, Allanton, Hartwood etc pupils are transported home.

Look more to Foundation Apprenticeships for senior pupils, unlike work experience, these will provide recognised qualifications for moving into college and university ie the chosen course may take pupils straight into related college course or count as a Higher pass helping meet University requirements.

Discussed the very successful S2 parents night – John asked as parents did we have any idea what was helping with the increasing attendances at parents nights. We believe communication and promotion via texts and twitter can only be helping. A decent notice may also be helping parents arrange time off work etc.

Ahead of the upcoming options event S2 pupils have been asked to put forward their thoughts on what there first 5 choices of subject might be (Maths and English compulsory) to allow more appropriate columns to be in place when the time comes.

**Quiz Night**

Some feel that maybe the quiz nights have run their course. John suggested that we look more at what we can do as a Parent Council to positively promote the school – we all agree the school does some great things for the young people but how do we get that message to all parents.

Thoughts are that we make a video, short snappy answers to what the school does best…..could be one word answers on cards if people don’t necessarily want to speak on film, could get responses from pupils etc.

This will be our main focus at the next meeting

**AOCB**

Kind of tying in with the above, for the next meeting John would like us to have a think of where we feel the school can improve, is there anywhere/anything we feel could be done better. Bear in mind the focus of the school improvement plan (current plan on school website)…Literacy and Numeracy, Closing the attainment gap, Health and Wellbeing, Positive Destinations

**Date of next meeting: Thursday 7th March @ 6pm**