

Calderhead HS Parent Council

Minutes for meeting held on Thursday 10th March 2022 at 6pm

Present: A McPhee, S Duncanson, J Robertson, J Hayburn, K Connor, L Prentice, M McCulloch, K Stevenson, M Paterson, A Barr, G Muir, C Campbell.

	To be Actioned By:
<p>Apologies Claire Whyte unable to attend meeting. Apologies given to M Paterson for correspondence being sent to the wrong email address.</p>	
<p>Feedback from K Connor re online parents evening: A survey was shared on the GBT page and with GBT staff team. A copy of the responses from the survey was shared with the group. Request for Event ideas – how does the community expect the school anniversary to be celebrated? A discussion took place on how we could mark the upcoming School opening anniversary. A suggestion was made for parents to book in for a “walk around” during in-service days for them to see the school.</p>	KC
<p>Head Teachers Report (Cut and Pasted from HT report)</p> <p>Parent Council Headteacher Report Thursday 10th March 2022</p> <p>Staffing We continue with the following long-term absences Librarian (Vacancy, unable to advertise due to ongoing review) Mrs Abbas (PT Expressive Studies), Carole Cowan has been appointed as Teacher of Home Economics, start date to be confirmed. We hope this will be prior to Easter. Mrs Galloway has returned from Maternity Leave We currently have an advert out for a permanent vacancy for a Technology Teacher to start in August 2022. We have asked for a probationers in Home Economics and Business Studies.</p> <p>Prelims The prelims were from 8th February through until Monday 21st February. These will help to generate evidence if a candidate is absent for SQA exam and give pupils an experience of sitting exams with invigilators. We now must submit an estimate grade for each pupil. If the final SQA result is worse than the estimate grade, then we may appeal the result if we have strong evidence. Flexible Study Plan. The school library and S6 Common Room will be set up to allow S4, S5, S6 pupils to come to school to study during SQA exams. Pupils can leave these rooms and seek help from the relevant department. We aim to staff the library with a member of staff to encourage good study habits.</p> <p>Holiday change (Reminder) Reminder, an additional holiday has been added to the calendar. The Platinum Jubilee holiday is Thursday 3rd June, the holiday on Monday 30th May has been moved to Friday 4th June.</p> <p>Future Fridays</p>	

This continues on a Friday afternoon from 1pm to 2:45pm. A range of activities are available. We have temporarily stopped football due to low numbers and the weather.

Parents' Meetings

The rescheduled S4 meeting is due to take place on Tuesday 8th March.
Two Options meetings, S2 and S4/5, took place on Thursday 3rd March via MS Teams. These were limited to 30 mins this year due to not being online and not in the Assembly Hall. There has been positive feedback on the process and both Option Forms. Unfortunately, 2 PT Pupil Support Teachers are absent due to illness this week so Ms Darragh DHT and Mr Russell DHT will also begin interviewing pupils.

Headteacher news

On Friday 4th March I was the peer Headteacher, at the Clyde Valley High School annual attainment review. I found this be a very valuable exercise in terms of our own quality assurance processes.

Extra Curricular

I believe a school with a positive learning culture will impart crucial skills for life and learning to its pupils, year-after-year. A community with healthy lifestyle habits is more likely to achieve and be aspirational and a child with confidence and resilience is more likely to be successful in life. By engaging with individuals and groups we hope to create sustainable impact on the lives of our young people.

Under 13 Boys football, we have a squad of around 20 boys who continue to train on a weekly basis on a Thursday after school. This is led by Mr Kennedy and Mr Holloway. They have a friendly home game arranged for Thursday 10th March against Our Lady's High School, Motherwell.

Girls Football continues on a Tuesday after school, led by Miss McConnell. They had a fixture arranged for 4th March which has been postponed.

Gymnastics and Trampolining continues with good numbers after school on a Thursday, led by Miss Mooty

Netball continues twice a week, Tuesday and Friday. They have two games scheduled for Friday 25th March against John Paul Academy.

The Fitness Suite is used most lunchtimes by pupils and staff and after school on a Monday.

Table Tennis has good numbers on a Wednesday at lunchtime. However, the last three have been cancelled due to prelims in the same venue.

Cross Country, based on recommendations from PE eight pupils took part in the Scottish Schools Cross Country Championships at Hopetoun House on Thursday 3rd March. This was only the second time in the last 20 years that Calderhead pupils have had the opportunity to represent their school at this event. I am pleased to report the following results Myren MacPhee 53rd in U14 Girls, Ellen MacPhee 102nd in Under 16 Girls, Kai Grant 173rd and Christopher Cowan 177th in Under 13 Boys. This is a marked improvement than when we attended in 2017.

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Partnership

GBT- Community Empowerment project, 8-week graffiti project.

GBT – Cycling projects, including Future Fridays

Velo Mechanics, two-day training and assessment, 8 pupils

Social Track £5000 joint bid for new bikes plus training for 8 pupils.

FireReach Off-site training with Scottish Fire and Rescue, 21st March for 4 days

COVID 19

<p>Masks are no longer compulsory in classrooms but are required in social areas and corridors.</p> <p>CO2 monitors have been deployed in each classroom to monitor air quality. If the monitor turns Red the member of staff will increase ventilation.</p> <p>Dates of future Parent Council meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday 5th May 2022 <p>Questions following HT Report. If youngsters have study leave then they can use the school as a base for studying? Yes</p> <p>Is Easter School happening? Yes. It will be spread over the two weeks.</p> <p>Three questions that are regularly asked of pupils to evaluate practice/wellbeing are: What do you like about the school? How have you benefitted by being at Calderhead? What could we do better? What do you want to see more of at CHS?</p>	
<p>Prelim Results</p> <p>150 young people have been absent since the start of the academic year. It's been difficult helping young people to catch up with lessons. Results are down from previous years. This seems to be a similar story at other schools. Lots of young people struggle with Exam Anxiety.</p> <p>Question: Will SQA be in charge of exams, moving forward? The new examination body will be QSA but the SQA will still be there for a couple of years.</p> <p>School trying to meet the needs of the young people through various strategies. All S4 pupils are being mentored. Study guides have been circulated explaining what parents and pupils can do to promote healthy study habits. PHSE has stopped for 4th year so that they can do past papers and study.</p>	
<p>Feedback from SQA Parent Council Chairpersons Meeting</p> <p>SQA confirmed scenario 2 which means that exams can go ahead. Lots of questions around young people not being able to attend exams due to covid or bereavement etc. Safety net models will be used by previous certificates.</p> <p>Young people reacted negatively to media reports of how this set of exams will be worse than previous years. Teachers addressed the issue immediately with young people.</p>	
<p>Revised Parent Council Constitution</p> <p>The constitution was discussed and agreed by parent council members. The amended constitution will be forwarded on to the necessary contacts and sent to the parent forum to be adopted officially. An EGM will be called to formalise and accept the new document.</p>	A McP
<p>Parent Council Moving Forward</p> <p>A "carousel" activity happened for parents to either plus or minus different suggestions for discussion points at future pc meetings. The most popular points will take priority.</p>	
<p>AOCB</p>	

<p>10yr anniversary will be happening in August. If we're able to hold an event then this could be a way of positively promoting the school. A discussion took place on who we could invite included former pupils, teachers and parents.</p> <p>School Captains to be invited to gather pupil ideas on how pupils would like to see it celebrated. They could potentially present the pupil responses at the next PC meeting.</p>	JR
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