

Calderhead HS Parent Council

Minutes

Thursday 7th September 2023



To be Actioned By:

Present

Audra MacPhee, Lorraine Ivory, Gordon Muir, John Robertson, Cllr Hughes, Amanda Barr, Lynn Prentice, Corrina Campbell, Maxine Paterson, Kirsteen Boyd and Colin Shearer.

Apologies

Apologies received from Lisa McAllister, Kyrstie Cowell, Susan Duncanson, Cllr Stevenson, Cllr Leckie and Cllr McCulloch.

Welcome

Audra welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 23/24 term. Introductions were made for the benefit of new parents.

Minutes from last meeting, June 23 were approved (AM) and seconded (LP).

Headteacher Report September 2023 (Copied HT Report)

Staffing

Laura Abbas, Expressive Arts PT, has extended career break to try to maximise her recovery from Long Covid. She is now scheduled to return in June 2024. She has been absent from school since August 2021. Pamela Cupples is 1FTE until June 2024. Graeme Russel is again Acting DHT until 31/3/2025. Stephen Leitch is Acting PT Pupil Support Lochhead House until 31/3/2023. Katie Phee is Acting PT Pupil Support 0.2 FTE Burns House and as well as 0.5 FTE PT Wallace House. We have only one Probationer Teacher for this session, Matthew Lawler in Biology. He has been placed with us at no cost to our staffing. Liam Donnelly, Home Economics, is paid for from our PEF Budget. Jillian Hamilton Cooper, Biology & Chemistry, at the end of her secondment choose to join Coatbridge High School. Louise Carson, Biology, is now 0.6 FTE. Kate Sharp 0.5FTE, continues as a Covid Recovery Teacher. for this session. She is a trained Primary Teacher and is focusing on literacy and numeracy interventions in S1 and S2. TeenTalk, Pupil Counselling, we currently have two part time counsellors and are waiting for a 3rd to join us. Marie Keeper, ASNA, has resigned. I have asked to advertise for a replacement.

SQA Results

By end of	Awards	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 Jan Estima	March estimates
S4	5+ Awards at National 3 or 4 or 5							93.5	92.3	90.3	84.4	88.8	77.1	92.2	75.0	85.2	81.5	85.1	47.00	
S4	5+ Awards at National 4 or 5							77.9	91.2	87.5	76.6	76.2	75.4	88.9	67.7	85.2	75	77.2		
S4	5+ Awards at National 5							28.6	29.7	31.9	29.9	26.1	33.9	37.7	30.9	40.7	33.3	41.6	32.00	
S5	1 or more awards at National 6	20.2	20.4	18.1	31.5	33.7	23.8	30.8	42.9	46.2	40.3	45.57	52.2	41.0	63.3	33.8	40.7	41.7	34.30	32.4
S5	3 or more awards at National 6	10.5	10.2	5.3	7.9	15.8	13.3	13.5	19.5	26.4	25.0	17.72	17.4	23.3	40.0	25	24.7	16.7	18.50	16.7
S5	5 or more awards at National 6	1.8	5.6	0.0	2.2	6.9	3.8	6.7	6.5	6.6	5.6	6.33	5.8	6.6	15.6	10.3	8.6	6.5	4.60	3.7
S6	1 or more awards at National 6	25.0	21.1	25.9	25.5	39.3	44.6	41.9	39.4	54.5	48.4	44.4	55.6	66.7	49.2	65.5	36.8			
S6	3 or more awards at National 6	10.2	14.9	13.9	12.8	24.7	29.7	25.7	25.0	35.1	36.3	31.9	24.7	24.6	30.7	45.5	26.5	25.9		
S6	5 or more awards at National 6	4.7	10.5	10.2	3.2	13.5	19.8	16.2	15.4	18.2	18.9	16.7	11.7	10.1	16.1	24.4	13.2	13.6		
S6	1 or more awards at National 7	0.8	3.5	5.6	0.0	5.6	4.0	5.7	2.9	6.5	9.9	12.5	7.8	11.6	9.7	18.8	8.8	3.7		

They do not include Foundation Apprenticeship awards which are the equivalent of a Higher-Grade B. As well as our normal procedures we also deployed PEF financed PTs and DHT to ensure as many pupils as possible gained 5 or more awards.

In S5 the number of pupils gaining 3 or more Highers was in line with our expectation. However, this was significantly down on previous years.

Measures taken to improve the number of Higher passes:

- Assertive course option interviews
- Parents and pupils advised on how many Highers they should be taking based on Nat 5 Prelim results.
- S5 Course Audit carried out in August and pupils recoured if required.

Validated Self Evaluation

All local authorities carry our regular VSE visits to both Primary and Secondary schools. As we are probably due an HMLE inspection in the next few years we think this will be very useful. How Good is Our School 4 sets out standards that schools can judge themselves against. There are a total of 15 Quality Indicators that schools are encouraged to use for self-reflection. We have been asked to rate ourselves against the four Qis that HMLE will use. The purpose of the VSE is to decide if our judgement is sound, do we have the evidence to back up our judgement and what steps we can take to improve. The VSE Team Lead is Jacqueline Burton, Education and Families Manager.

The six-point scale is:

- Excellent
- Very Good
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Weak
- Unsatisfactory

We have yet to submit our self-evaluation paper, at present it looks as if we settling on.

School	Date	1.3 Leadership of change	2.3 Learning, teaching and assessment	3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion	3.2 Raising attainment and achievement
Calderhead		Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Satisfactory
Period	Tuesday 19th		Wednesday 20th		Thursday 21st
1	Scoping Paper HT + DHTs		Staff Attendance Group		Partner Group
2					
Interval					McMillan Coffee Morning
3	Pupil Leadership Group (PC, Captains)		Faculty PT group		Parent Group
4	DHT Group				
Lunch					
5	Safe Guarding MD		Pupil Focus group		
6			Staff Group		
7					

We are looking for Parents to join us on the 21st of September at 1055 to speak to the VSE Team from NLC. We will be using the School Library for the Focus Groups with the VSE Team based in the Conference Room.

Calderhead Vision & Values

Motto

- Facta Non Verba (Deeds not words)

Established

- 1820 Wilson's School
- 1876 Calderhead School
- 1965 Calderhead Secondary School
- 1966 Calderhead High School

Promoting a positive ethos by following the school's vision and values because Calderhead CARES

Vision

- Shotts Schools Transforming Lives

Values

Community

- Being a proud **ambassador** for Calderhead High School and the Shotts community.
- Working in **partnership** with parents/carers, employers and other agencies.
- Treating the school building and grounds with **respect**.
- Having a sense of belonging in a safe, welcoming and **nurturing** environment.

Ambition

- **Determination** to succeed in your own way.
- Being **resilient** and accepting that challenge is a part of success.
- **Embracing opportunities** that are afforded to you.
- Having **high expectations** and always striving to do your best.

Respect

- Acknowledging you are **valued** in every way and knowing those around you are valuable too.
- Understanding that everyone deserves to be treated with **kindness** and behaving as such.
- Showing **care** towards our school building, resources, community, and environment.
- Following rules and **trusting** that they are there to encourage success for all.

Equity

- Recognising **differences** in others and ourselves.
- Identifying ways to overcome **barriers**.
- Creating **opportunities** for all.
- **Embedding** an inclusive atmosphere and mindset.

Success

- **Celebrating** personal goals for each young person.
- **Preparing** pupils for life and work.
- **Opportunities** to break down barriers and succeed.
- Taking **accountability** for your learning and achievement.

Proud to be a Rights Respecting School. Proud to be an MVP School. Breastfeeding friendly award school.

<p>Use of Space</p> <p>The school roll has increased over recent years and so a review is being carried out to look at good use of space within the building to accommodate the changing school roll and needs. John Robertson invited the parents attending on a tour of space that is being considered for change of use / alteration. Once plans have been finalised the school will need investment to apply any such changes to the building.</p>	
<p>Parent Council Update</p> <p>Facebook Group</p> <p>The Facebook group for parents has been running for 10 months and has 208 members. The group has had a number of new members since the new S1 year group started in August.</p> <p>Parent Council Membership</p> <p>Our AGM is in December, and we will be looking to recruit parents / carers from across all year groups.</p> <p>Secretary Position</p> <p>Our PC secretary position is currently vacant as Susan Duncanson is no longer able to continue in this role due to work commitment. Thank you to Susan for all her efforts over the past few years. If anyone would be inserted in this role, please get in touch. The group agreed to wait until our AGM to decide about this position. If we do not have a parent willing to take up this role there is the option of looking to appoint a PC clerk. Audra has agreed to cover both roles meantime.</p> <p>Safety School Gate</p> <p>Following initial contact with Gary Woods at NLC, we are waiting on an update on progress with various matters.</p> <p>Family Engagement Support Officers</p> <p>Parent Council raised concerns regarding the above position and appointment of this role to cover CHS given our challenge with attendance.</p> <p>Parent Council 2023 / 2024</p> <p>At our May meeting the group listed areas that they would be keen to hear more about at future meetings. A question was posed regarding what activities the group might want to get involved in within the school. Fundraising was discussed given feedback from the parent forum and recent FB poll which showed 84% of responses in favour of parents being interested in fundraising. Albeit this is based on a low number of responses, but we felt that as we are trying to encourage parental engagement, we should at least attempt to establish interest. We have agreed to hold an informal meeting and invite any parent / carer who has an interest in fundraising along to see if we have a viable number of people to allow a fundraising group or sub-group to be formed. Date TBC.</p>	AM
<p>AOB</p> <p>Supported Study</p> <p>A question was raised regarding supported study in respect of clashes with other subjects and extra-curricular activities. Supported study after school can only be offered 4 days per week and so there will be clashes particularly for S4 who are likely to be studying 7 subjects.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 5th October 2023 at 6pm Calderhead HS.</p>	