

# Calderhead HS Parent Council

Minutes

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024



|   | Actioned By: |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Present</b><br>Audra MacPhee, John Robertson, Maxine Paterson, Angela Buchanan, Edward Ford, Lorraine Ivory, Kirsteen Boyd, Cllr Hughes, Cllr McCulloch, Cllr Leckie, Gordon Muir, Corrina Campbell, Lisa McAllister, Colin Shearer.   |              |
| <b>Apologies</b><br>Apologies received Lynn Prentice, Cllr Stevenson and Kyrstie Cowell.  |              |
| <b>Welcome</b><br>Audra MacPhee welcomed everyone to the first parent council meeting of 2024. Minutes from last meeting, 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 reviewed. Approved Lorraine Ivory and seconded Cllr Hughes.   |              |
| <b>Pupil Support</b><br>We were delighted to have Angela Buchanan, PT Pupil Support attend to give our group a flavour of the role of pupil support.<br>Angela took us through a typical day in the life of a pupil support teacher which varies day to day and involves so many aspects of support.<br>All pupil support teachers are subject teachers who have pupil support responsibilities and there is designated pupil support for each of the schools 4 houses. Time designated for this role for each pupil support teacher is 5 periods per week. It became apparent during the session that the levels of support afforded to our young people at CHS will most likely take more than the allocated 5 periods.<br>Some examples of duties within the role: house time visits, dealing with parental concerns, meeting with parents, wellbeing app, referrals to TeenTalk, Home School Partnership and CAMHS. Liaising with other members of staff within the school and also external agencies such as Police and social work. This list is by no means exhaustive but gives an idea of some of the duties.<br>What was apparent from Angela was the support that is afforded to pupils whether there are complex issues to be dealt with or just a young person needing someone to talk to or a listening ear. It was clear how important it is for pupil support to know the young people for whom they provide support. |              |
| <b>Headteacher Report February 2024 (Copied HT Report)</b><br><b>Staffing</b><br>I have met with the member of staff who has been absent since March 2023. We are engaged in a supportive process to enable her return to school. We have been able to recruit supply Art and Design staff to cover her timetable. We have filled our ASNA vacancy, with a new member of staff starting on Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024. A PT has been absent since the start of December. I have met with them and scheduled another meeting later this month. Again, we have been able to recruit a member of staff to cover this absence. Mrs Crawford has taken over his PT duties.<br><b>Moderation in the Broad General Education Project</b><br>All Faculty PTs and subject specialists have had the first of their two days training. They will then begin to work collaboratively across the four schools involved.<br><b>Attendance</b><br>Pupil absence continues to be a concern. This is a concern across the UK and beyond. The current <u>mean absence per day</u> at Calderhead is now:  |              |

Up until 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

|          |         |          |          |         |         |
|----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| S1 (113) | S2 (92) | S3 (113) | S4 (111) | S5 (87) | S6 (42) |
| 10.23%   | 19.18%  | 21.06%   | 23.70%   | 25.69%  | 25.15%  |

Up until 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023

|          |         |          |          |         |         |
|----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| S1 (113) | S2 (92) | S3 (113) | S4 (111) | S5 (87) | S6 (42) |
| 11.65%   | 19.34%  | 21.66%   | 24.39%   | 23.82%  | 22.34%  |

Up until 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024

|          |         |          |          |         |         |
|----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| S1 (113) | S2 (92) | S3 (113) | S4 (111) | S5 (87) | S6 (42) |
| 12.11%   | 20.12%  | 22.19%   | 24.17%   | 23.76%  | 22.11%  |

### Opportunities for Personal Development

We have secured two groups of 12 pupils at the Outward Bound Centre at Loch Eil in September 2024. This was offered to the current S2 pupils. There was an over subscription and places were allocated on attendance, effort and behaviour. We currently have 5 reserves.

### School Maintenance

Update

- Sewage pumps - **completed**.
- The heating within the school is not working in large parts of the building - **completed**
- The circulating fan system in the Assembly Hall is in need of repair - **work has commenced**
- The main entrance door is in need of repair - **completed**
- The leak in the Humanities Store cupboard - **completed**
- The rain harvester system is not working and is currently being overridden - **work has commenced**.

New issues

- New Leaks plus those that have appeared in the South Facing Geography classrooms. This was after heavy rainfall. We suspect that this is because of guttering system that needs to be cleaned. I have been given an assurance that guttering will be cleaned by February, weather conditions permitting. Approximate cost to NLC is £4000 - **not commenced**.

Cllr McCulloch made the suggestion that in light of GDPR that names within the HT report should not be published within the minutes which are to be made public.

### VSE Report

John Robertson took the group through the VSE (Validated Self-Evaluation) report from the recent VSE Visit in September 2023.

Over the course of the visit the team attended classes, met with the senior leadership team, staff, pupil support, pupils, senior pupils and parents.

The report had really no surprises for staff nor parent council. There was some very positive feedback from the team who conducted the visit. An example being comments around the young people feeling safe and valued in CHS. It was also great to hear that the team made note of the warm and welcoming attitude and the excellent manners that were demonstrated throughout their visit.

As expected, there are areas for improvement such as learning and teaching and improvement planning with these areas already being worked on to improve the areas highlighted.

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| <p><b>Cluster Parent Council Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> February</b></p> <p>Last year we visited parent councils within the Calderhead Cluster and St Pats Primary. From these visits the idea hatched of having a cluster PC meeting and so we have planned a Calderhead Cluster event on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb – this will be the first meeting of its kind across NLC. The programme will consist of a presentation from Calderhead PC, Spotlight Shotts and New College Lanarkshire. We hope to provide an opportunity for attendees to give feedback and perhaps share best practice. Communication has been sent out to Allanton PS, Kirk O Shotts PS, Dykehead PS, Stane PS, Alexander Peden PS and St Pats PS. Invitation has also been made to all CHS PC members and our Elected members. There may be some organisational help required as we get closer to the 21<sup>st</sup> and if so requests for help will be communicated via the PC WhatsApp group.</p> <p>CHS PC members to confirm attendance.<br/> Cllrs to confirm attendance.<br/> Room for event to be arranged with John Robertson.<br/> Programme of events.</p> | <p>ALL<br/> CLLRS<br/> AM<br/> AM/LP</p> |
| <p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A request was made for the schools anti-bullying policy to be made available.</li> <li>• Parents were keen to hear if Easter School is running this year. Timetable for this is not available as yet but dates Easter School will run will be communicated.</li> <li>• Cover for school events – we are hoping to be able to have PC presence at school events such as parents evenings etc. In order to do this we are looking for volunteers from the PC committee to help out. The next few events are as follows: Options Info Event 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb and S3 Parents Evening 5<sup>th</sup> March.</li> <li>• Potholes at school gate have been reported to Inspector of Roads and a request for work has been submitted. It is hoped that this will be attended to in the coming days.</li> <li>• PC Code of Conduct – following our AGM in December, all PC committee members are required to complete our CHS PC code of conduct. If you haven't yet had sight of this form please ask at the next meeting.</li> </ul>  | <p>JR<br/> JR<br/> ALL<br/> ALL</p>      |
| <p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Calderhead Cluster Meeting Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2024 at 19:00 at Calderhead HS.</p> <p>Next CHS PC meeting Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 18:00 at Calderhead HS – all parents / carers of pupils at CHS are invited to attend.</p>  |  |