St Ambrose High School Parent Council

Monday 6th March 2020

Key – EL = Parent Council Elected Member, PF = Parent Forum, DHT = Depute Head Teacher, SL= School Leader, TR = Teaching Representative

Present: K Robb (Chairperson), M McQuade (Vice Chair), K McGhie (EL), P Madau (EL), P McGowan (PF), D Goldie (PF), K Smith (PF), P Doran (EL), E Douglas (Head Teacher), J MacPhail (DHT), Niamh Carroll (SL), M Corns (PF), R Wallace (EL), K Hamill (EL), A Kerr (PF), A Millar (CR), J Killear (P), I Killear (P).

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| **Minutes** | **Action** |
| 1. **Prayer**

**J MacPhail & Chair** |  |
| 1. **Apologies**  F Weir & A McDermott
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| **3. Previous Minutes Address*** Previous minutes agreed.
* Cluster PC Meeting rearranged for May.
* Discussion on Z Ramage completing further work
* Perception and confidence - reiteration top 5%, most improved council.
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| 1. **Correspondence**

**N/A** |   |
| 1. Campus
* Coronavirus mentioned
* Site recovery meeting (SRG) discussed. HT mentioned retirement - in light of confidence levels.
* Ongoing remediation in drainage.
* HT asked if any children had said toilets were locked, parents all responded in the negative.
* HT asked if all at ease with this, toilets functional and useable. .
* One teacher from Buchanan received extensive private testing and is happy to share results at next meeting.
* Site recovery meetings moved to every second month. M McQuade commented that this is positive.
* It was again noted that pupils seem to have confidence in school and are ready to move on. Comment on A Smith’s presentation from last month's meeting.
* N Carroll commented it is good not to have meetings every month.
* SRG minutes on the website.
* JMcPh - commented on the coronavirus, following joint advice from NHS and NLC.
* Brief discussion of positive cases, NHS inform, NHS 24, helpline set up.
* Schools receiving much of the same advice, be vigilant about hygiene, reissued posters about good hygiene.
* Any cases are being managed centrally, if any pupil displays symptoms then school to report to NLC.
* School trips, as long as they do not fall into category 1 or 2 can proceed as normal.
* Bishop Toal giving communion in hands not tongue and further measures in place to limit spread.
* Noted also that St Andrews University had put measures in place, followed by more general discussion surrounding coronavirus.
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| 1. **Budget**
* Copies of labour group budget indicative distributed
* HT discussed document briefly.
* Need to reconfigure management - HT to await reductions in management structure.
* Discussed 2014 reshuffle of faculties.
* Noted difficulties of PTs who are not subject specialists.
* Base budget adjustments, mentioned Kilbowie and other 'hard decisions.'
* Point 16, mentioned classroom assistants - HT noted this different from ASNAs.
* HT discussed budget further in relation to Education and Families.
* Mention of reconfiguration of school week, noted this would be a large undertaking.
* K Robb asked if parents were going to be involved or any kind of consultation with parents.
* ASNAs - HT discussed cluster working with primary school, resources allocated according to needs of cluster. Cluster approaches increasing.
* P Doran noted that St Kevin's have a mental health councillor 2 days. Scottish government allocated money for counselling services.
* Comment also on need to enhance mainstream, so young people can cope with mainstream education.
* HT noted to be a review on joint campus/shared headship - although this mainly based in primaries.
* Librarians, cease of service within secondary schools. Noted C Wright fabulous library. This resource now being considered in the context of the community.
* Some budget cuts were rejected.
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| 1. **HT Report**
* Noted staffing situation difficult due to long term absence.
* Mentioned also Mr Fitzhenry, new PT RE.
* HT also reminded those present that SQA examinations have begun.
* K Robb offered thanks and noted the great deal of supported study. JMcPh mentioned English supporting study with parental involvement.
* HT discussed handover period. HT post has been advertised as acting post. Interviews due to take place Friday 13th March. This will allow HT to handover, management structure is in place.
* HT to return for one week after spring break. Thursday graduation mass, then Friday 24th April last day.
* The post has been advertised as 'acting' HT
* HT thanked M McQuade & K Robb for their support and help, particularly throughout the last year.
* HT mentioned retirement celebrations, and mass St Augustine's then return to St Ambrose for buffet.
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| 1. **Report from A Millar**
* Noted there is a new youth worker - in primary 1 day per week at the moment.
* Retreat has been finalised for Caritas pupils. S6 - Parish centre 1 day. S3 Father Kane would like some kind of retreat. S4 will work with Jan (youth worker) and PT RE A. Fitzhenry. S6 to be trained to give retreat to S1.
* Noted Lenten daily masses.
* Buchanan High pupils invited to join anything at St Ambrose.
* Caritas pupils helping food bank.
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| 1. **AOCB**
* K. Robb thanked HT, mentioned again celebration 2nd April.
* Commented that it was a privilege to be on PC with Mrs Douglas, whole group very positive.
* K Robb commented on what HT has done for both school and pupils.
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| 1. **Date of Next Meeting:**

May 4th 2020  |  |