St Ambrose High School Parent Council



Minutes of meeting Monday 13th May 2019

**Key – EM = Parent Council Elected Member, PF = Parent Forum, DHT = Depute Head Teacher, SL= School Leader, TS= Teaching Staff**

Present: K Robb (Chairperson), A Millar (Church Representative), S Harvey (Clerk),

R Wallace (EM), P Doran (EM), , K McGhie (EM), J Gilmour (EM), P Madau (EM), P McGowan (PF), D Goldie (PF),

A McDermott (PF), M Corns (PF), E Douglas (Head Teacher), ASimpson (TS),

F Weir (TS), Megan McQuade (SL)

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| **Minutes** | **Action** |
| 1. **Prayer**
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| 1. **Apologies**
* J MacPhail (DHT), M McQuade (Vice Chairperson), K Hamill (EM), E Warnock (EM)
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| 1. **Correspondence**
* Consultative Group – 21st May. Kate will attend. Councillors have not replied to invite to meetings
 | Kate will contact the councillors regarding meetings |
| 1. **Previous minutes address**
* Minutes from February and March meeting agreed by members
* Clerk e-mailed Y.A.M.S with regard to someone visiting to talk to group about Mental Health.
* Clerk will e-mail minutes to feeder parishes.
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| 1. **Campus Issues**
* NLC met with St Ambrose High and Buchanan High on the 1st May to give an update. All copper piping removed and replaced. Both schools were very different in regards to issues etc. Mrs Douglas has no issues to address.
* Chairperson has contacted Fulton MacGregor and he has clarified that issues are coming from Buchanan High. Our chairperson pointed out that it has been portrayed that issues are coming from schools. Group agreed that the parent council were happy with the NLC update. Councillors are invited to parent council meetings. Mrs Douglas does constantly ask questions and always wants to be updated from North Lanarkshire but did say that although we are still being monitored any issues are very different in the two schools. NLC is very limited in what they can say in respect of a legal case with themselves and parties involved in the build.
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| 1. **School Improvement**
* Our service has been reshaping over the last 6 or 7 months and new dimensions added to Education. The families’ element in Education and Families is Social Work and the third part of us is Youth Justice. Mrs Douglas noted that we should all be working together. The priorities are to improve education in young people. Points of actions include improving attainment, commitment – pupil support across the wider curriculum in Duke of Edinburgh Award etc., both HT work together at looking at the curriculum for ideas to support both schools, Quality framework, overcoming difficulties in dealing with primaries important as although we have 5 feeder schools we have also 92 placing requests and we deal with 2 councils – Glasgow and NLC. Secondary’s and Primaries are working together to ensure a smoother transition for pupils for e.g. Level 2 in a primary should be the same as Level 2 in a secondary school. The concept of moderation and verification is very familiar in a secondary school as we are moderated and verified already. Former member of staff and group member noted that it is very structured for moderation in a Secondary. Our chairperson asked the question to HT “do you think this is better” and our HT noted that it is very important that the link is there. Our chairperson asks about what could happen to help e.g. Should placing requests be made earlier. HT explained that as long as each cluster group is working throughout NLC then the process should be fine. Every school has an arithmetic number of capacity. Issue of placing requests depend on this. Our school role is increasing and placing requests will depend on this also. *Equality* – looks at closing the gap, communicating with parents (monitoring and tracking), intervention strategies - (tutor meets include how to conduct yourself etc.), club 365, mobile safety. *Health and Wellbeing* – looks at Mental Health *Strategy, Developing young workforce* – looks at positive leaver destinations, developing young workforce in junior phase. HT noted that schools are a place of learning and we should support prosperity but it should not be all about what jobs they get. Mainstream staff should be trained in areas including mental health as we are the gatekeepers to agencies like CAMHS etc. in ensuring we get support for pupils as quickly as possible. PEF money is being used to bring a councillor in once a week. We are hoping the gains will be evident before the summer holidays... HT will be looking for monies from mainstream budget to support Mental Health.
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| 1. **Staffing and Curriculum**
* Staffing and Curriculum – we are fully staffed for next session. We await news of our probationers. Mrs Denton (DHT) is retiring in September and there is a vacancy for this post. Mrs Denton is DHT for SQA so we are delighted she will return in August and start the year off. Mr Graham (Music department) is leaving. Mrs MacGregor (music department) will return on a part –time basis. Mrs Kincaid (P.E. department) is leaving. Mrs Kincaid’s post is filled as there are 2 core supply in NLC that have permanency within the council. Mrs Brown (Home Economics) is leaving.
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| 1. **Report from HT**
* Budget – Education and Families have 6 areas of savings and full report is available on the council website. Education and Families required to save 6 million pounds. Scottish Attainment Challenge have been allocated as per school role. We have separate staff who are retired filing the 1Fte teaching compliment in attainment. Changes to PEF include the sum will be top sliced of 4% at every school at every level. Teaching core costs – long term absence budget has gone. Core administration etc. will not be refilled straight away.
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| 1. **A.O.C.B**
* Under 13’s beat in final. Congratulations on reaching the final.
* Invite Father Kane to New Session meeting.
* Group member brought along article from the Scottish Catholic Observer for everyone to read. Article regarding Catholic Schools serving poor areas do better academically.
* School show invites were distributed to group.
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| 1. **Date of next meeting**
* Monday 3rd June 2019 at 6pm
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