

## **BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL**

Notice of Meeting to be held on Tuesday 19 January 2015 at 7.00 p.m. in the Strathendrick Suite,  
Balfron High School

### **A G E N D A**

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Secretary's Report
5. Head teacher's Report
6. SCHOLAR
7. Structure of school week for session 2016 - 2017
8. Treasurer's Report
9. Fundraising
10. AOCB
11. Dates of meetings            15 March 2016  
    AGM – 10 May 2016

## BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 19th January 2016 at 7.00 p.m. in the Strathendrick Suite, Balfon High School

**Present:** Fiona Edward-Smith (Chair); Gerry Eckersley (Vice-Chair); Mary-Clare Brown; Elaine Bannatyne; Suzanne Teed; Sheena Muir; Kirsten Pettigrew; Stephanie Harper; Amanda

**Apologies:** Wendy Hamilton; Jenny Malyon; Fiona MacVicar; Head Prefects

### 1. **Welcome**

Fiona thanked everybody for coming. Particular welcome offered to Michael Falconer from Scholar.

### 2. **Minutes of previous meeting – 3 November 2015**

Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed.

### 3. **Matters Arising**

Need for fundraising outstanding.

### 4. **Secretary**

Nothing to report.

### 5. **SCHOLAR Presentation**

Michael Falconer gave a detailed presentation of the Scholar support website that the school offers to all S5/6 students and increasingly S4. Scholar provides live, online and authenticated information on many Advanced Higher, Higher and National 5 courses. Each student at school has a username, but access also available through Glow. Parents are able to get own password for Scholar by contacting [B.Laidlaw@hw.ac.uk](mailto:B.Laidlaw@hw.ac.uk)

There was some discussion regarding the use of Edmodo and Show my Homework in relation to Scholar. A member of staff will put together some information for parents regarding the site as the PC members thought it would be appreciated.

### 6. **Head teacher's report**

#### ➤ **Learning and Teaching**

'How Good is our School 4' HGIOS – new observed lesson focus. BHS has been able to purchase the software to assist pupils with Dyslexia.

#### ➤ **Attainment**

On track / Off track reports have been followed up. The prelims are now underway. Many thanks are given to the parents who volunteer to help invigilate freeing up staff time.

#### ➤ **Parents and Partners**

New Glow website is not fully ready to be launched.

Christmas Ceilidhs were a success - the school very much appreciated the support of parents. It was felt that the wider discussion and parental involvement contributed to the

high standards of behaviour. It is hoped that parents will continue to support the dances in 2016/2017

Drop In Wednesdays with Ms Bannatyne continue - please drop in.

➤ **Wider Curriculum and Ethos**

Christmas activities were a success - dances, fayre and concert

Thanks to an S6 pupil, we now have a Computer Games club at lunchtimes. The inter-house programme has been widely expanded to include a number of other non-sporting activities e.g. singing and baking contests.

Linked with Stirling High School there is also a Confucius Club for those with an interest in China and Chinese culture.

➤ **Staffing Changes**

Mr Noon (Head of Maths) has moved to Peebles High School on a DHT secondment - we wish him well. Mr G Cameron is standing in until newly appointed Mr S Shields from Hyndland Secondary starts on 15 February.

➤ **Curriculum and National Qualifications**

In service days will focus on differentiation to support all learners and at levels; the website and networks

There is ongoing consultation to ensure the curriculum is delivered effectively in a 31 period week.

Move to a 31 period week is expected in August - with 4 shorter days and one slightly longer day, allowing all teaching periods to be 50 minutes long. There was some discussion regarding the structure of these days/week.

New NIF (National Improvement Framework) assessments for S3 (reading, writing, numeracy) will be undertaken this year.

S3 - 2 masterclass choices will be undertaken in May.

**7. Treasurer's Report**

Bank balance at £767.85. Cheques written to the school have now been able to be cashed.

**8. Fundraising**

Amanda has organised the Race Night on 26 February. Posters, flyers and tickets distributed.

Please can we try and encourage the use of easyfundraising, which raises money from online shopping at no cost to the buyer. A Spring Fair was discussed for Good Friday. Amanda has plans for involving wider community. A further meeting will be arranged to discuss fundraising. Elaine Bannatyne to apply for appropriate license from Stirling Council to allow BHS to run raffles and a Hundred Club.

**9. AOCB**

Some S4's are finding their first experience of the exam hall daunting. The school are keen to see if there could be an earlier assessment or test in S3 to be taken in the exam hall to help reduce this anxiety.

Balfron pupils' behaviour at events outside the school was commended.

**10. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 March 2015 at 7.00 p.m. in the Strathendrick Suite, Balfron High School.