

Bathgate Academy Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting

Wed 12th September 2018, Conference Room

Attendees:

Grant Abbot (HT), Grace Burns (DHT), Clare McGregor (T), Tracey Bredski (T), Derek Cornwall (Chair), Richmond Davies, Delyth MacDonald, Gillian Morgan, Michelle Primrose, Kirsty Roger, Hazel Young, Sharon Cochrane, Susan Carroll, Helen Neary, Gillian Greenwell, Karen Smillie, Tracey Ironside, Pamela Reid, Natalie Gilhooly, Victoria Dunnett

Topics

1. Apologies

Received from Angela Grant, Jacqueline Harkins

2. Minutes & Matters arising

No matters arising and minutes were approved

3. Chair's feedback

Local Parent Forum being held at Broxburn Academy on Wednesday 3rd October at 7pm with a presentation on the recent Scottish Government Learning Together paper, National and Higher Qualifications and Instrumental Music Service provision update being also on the agenda. All parents welcome to attend.

Future dates for local parent forum:

6th March 2019 Deans Community High School 7pm

22nd May 2019 Inveralmond Community High School 7pm

4. Discussion Topic – Health, Wellbeing & Safeguarding (HWS)

Grace Burns (DHT) and Clare McGregor(T) gave a presentation to parent council members on what this meant from an education perspective and outlined the various activities being carried out within the school. A schematic diagram was also tabled which summarised these activities which is attached to these minutes for future reference.

- All persons within the school have a responsibility
- Promoting Equality & avoiding Bullying
- School had achieved LGBT Bronze Charter Award

- Pupils have a voice via post boxes, Monday group
- Link on school's web site for further information
- Mental Health Councillor at School two days per week

Derek thanked Grace and Clare for a very interesting presentation and for updating parent council members on the activities being planned and carried out within the school.

Parent Council also wished to release each month throughout the school year a brief article on HWS and members were asked to contact the chair should they wish to have any specific issues raised from their experience. Derek to do a summary for release in September via the school app outlining the definition of HWS and outlining the parent council intentions to release monthly news articles on HWS.

5. Head Teacher update

Progress report Senior Phase – Grant had met with parent groups and gave an update on the new colour coding attainment reporting with S4, S5 and S6 achievement indicator letters due out shortly. This style of reporting is seen as being early Intervention notices and motivators.

S1,S2 and S3 will not have as many pupil school reports as these groups are still underpinning knowledge towards BGE.

Exam Attainment Figures – Deferred to next meeting

6. School Captains

Grant introduced the two new school captains selected for this school year and Derek welcomed them to the meeting and emphasised the importance placed by PC members in listening to pupils concerns and activities and the school captains agenda item gave pupils a voice within the parent council forum.

7. Parent Involvement Matters Video

Grant showed the parent council the latest version of a two minute video being produced by the pupils within the school which was intended to be shown at large groups of parents and pupils congregating within the school. Grant was asked to look at changing the word Parent throughout the video to encompass carers and guardians. Grant was also tasked to look at asking the music department within the school to add a tune to the slide presentation. Derek thought this was an excellent idea as it involved more pupil activity in its creation.

8. AOCB

- a) Parent Council Logo competition – Derek presented a one page competition leaflet that could be passed around the school where pupils could win £100 and be awarded a certificate from a local graphics company. Grant to process this via pupil parliament and issue competition details.

- b) PC Roller Banner Design – Deferred to next meeting**
- c) Future possible Items – None received**
- d) AOCB**
 - a. An issue around calculators within the school which were awarded to S1 last year but nothing to S1 this year. Grant explained that this was due to PEF funding last year but as this could not be quantified it was withdrawn this year and instead £10 for CDT and £20 HE was applied to each pupil**
 - b. S1's were being asked to make £2 contributions for football games. This was explained as being for pitch hire costs which was outwith the school's remit and would not meet PEF funding criteria.**
 - c. Smaller catchment area communities to the school was also raised and Grant explained that the catchment area is assessed by geographic address location set by West Lothian Council and that the current pupil size and number of Academies in West Lothian was about right and would be cost prohibitive to place academies in each community as set up currently with primary schools.**
 - d. Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme within the school is limited to the Bronze Award and relies heavily on staff providing volunteering support. Not all schools provide the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.**

9. Date of Next meeting

Wednesday 14th November 2018, at 6pm Conference Room

