



Bathgate Academy Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting

Wed 15th May 2019, Conference Room

Attendees:

Grant Abbot (HT), Cllr William Boyle, Tracey Bredski (T), Cllr Harry Cartmill, Derek Cornwall (Chair), John Findlay, Jacqueline Harkins, Tracey Ironside, Cllr Charles Kennedy, Delyth MacDonald, Cllr John McGinty, Hazel Young

Topics

1. Apologies

Received from Sharon Robertson, Michelle Primrose, Richmond Davies

2. Minutes & Matters arising

Cllr Cartmill stated that the possible funding for a defibrillator from the Order of St John's was still ongoing and he would keep the school informed of any developments. No other matters arising and minutes were approved.

3. Chair's Feedback

Derek stated that the pupil led survey on parent/carer contact survey form had been completed and is being handed out to all pupils up to S5 this week, to be handed back to the school office by end of May.

The roller banner summarising the parent council work on health, wellbeing and safeguarding has been handed to full circle graphics and would be available to show at start of next term. The other roller banner on the functions of the parent council was still work in progress but again should be available for start of next term.

4. School Captains Update

Grant had no issues received from Murray and Jessica, who gave their apologies due to exam revision.

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

(a) May and June publications – Derek stated that the end of May article would be about physical activity and the end of June would be an article on 50 fun activities to do with teenagers over the summer holidays which encapsulates our work on health, wellbeing and safeguarding this year.

6. Head Teacher update

- (a) HMI school report update – Grant provided a summarised presentation of the recent HMI school inspection report and also touched on the recent and we believe inaccurate social media press article. An in-depth discussion followed from parents and local Councillors. The school has an action plan to respond to the issues raised within the HMI report to ensure a consistent approach within the school. All were keen to agree that they believed the school was heading in the right direction and both parent council members and local councillors were unanimously supportive of the school and all the work being carried out.

Grant to arrange a session with local councillors during August/September to visit the school to provide an insight of the work being undertaken and all agreed to attend.

Derek to send out a statement to the school on behalf of the parent council, supporting the teachers and support staff for the work that they do to improve pupil attainment and outcomes for our children.

7. AOCB

- (a) Future parent council meeting dates were agreed for 2019/20 and are detailed below:
- Wednesday 11th September 2019, 6pm conference room
 - Wednesday 13th November 2019, 6pm conference room
 - Wednesday 15th January 2020, 6pm conference room
 - Wednesday 18th March 2020, 6pm conference room
 - Wednesday 13th May 2020, 6pm conference room
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- (b) School web site links – Derek to speak with Grant re getting all the Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding links issued during the year added to the school website.
- (c) P7 leaving present - Grant to issue Numeracy pack donated by Boghall Community to Boghall pupils at the transitions events being carried out shortly.
- (d) Civic Reception - Cllr Cartmill stated that both he and Cllr Kennedy had approached West Lothian Council with regards to holding a civic reception for Polar Academy pupils and staff in recognition of their achievements and this was approved. Grant to be advised in due course to arrange a suitable date.
- (e) Astro Turf upgrade - Grant advised pc members that the school's astro turf was being upgraded to 3G over the summer recess. (3rd Generation football pitches are constructed on a firm base, with long pile artificial grass filled with sand and rubber crumb. These latest types of 3G football pitches not only look like the real thing, but they are increasingly playing like them too.
- (f) Derek thanked everyone for their support and attendance over the year and looked forward to seeing you all again in the new term.

8. Date of Next meeting

Wednesday 11th September 2019, at 6pm Conference Room