

Inverurie Academy Parent Council Committee Meeting – Minutes

Wednesday 7th November 2018

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE
Welcome	Elizabeth welcomed everyone along to the meeting and thanked our guests Dr Drysdale (DHT) and Mr O'Connor (DHT) for coming along to participate in the Head Teacher presentation.		
Attending/Apologies	<u>Attending:</u> Elizabeth Watt, Valerie Napier, Cllr Judy Whyte, Juliet Serrell, Samantha Tribe, Shona Strachan, Deborah Collinson, Kay Diack, Claire Green, Emma Stephenson, Lyndsay Aspey, Sheila Cunningham, Cllr Marian Ewenson, Mark Jones (HT), Dr Drysdale (DHT), Mr O'Connor (DHT) <u>Apologies:</u> Gail Hempseed, Michelle Charles, Anne Hitchcox, Sam Grant, Vicky MacKintosh, Emma West.		
Matters Arising from Previous Minutes/Approval	<u>Emergency Bags</u> – Donation agreed to support purchase at Committee Meeting held in April 2017. £200 transferred in May 2017, this will enable the purchase of 4/5 bags. The Rotary are also considering donating funds to support the purchase of additional bags. <u>Homework Policy</u> - last reviewed August 2013. Acknowledgement that there are differences in practice among the staff. A broad common approach will be developed. Topic will be the focus of the Head Teacher presentation at the PC meeting on 5 th June – “Learning and Teaching: sharing students’ progress and milestones with parents”. <u>Equalities Policy</u> – Update and Next Steps from Mr Johnston at Parent Council meeting either 7 th February or 16 th April 2019.	School to purchase bags and contents. Policy to be reviewed in consultation with Parent Council. Policy to be shared with PC members in February.	Ms Lynch Dr Drysdale Mr Johnston

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	<p><u>Additional Rights for 16 year old students</u> – Dr Drysdale’s recent letter to parents explains the signing out procedure for senior students. More information in the Government Publication - What can I do at my age? A student can ask the school not to contact parents about their decisions regarding their education from this age.</p> <p>Minutes from last meeting proposed by Samantha Tribe and seconded by Kay Diack.</p>		
<p>Head Teacher Update and Presentation</p>	<p>Update and Presentation included in attached slide presentation.</p> <p>Main topic - <u>“Curriculum for Excellence – Helping my child to make the best subject choices”</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Drysdale presented on “Learning and Teaching” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Themes – teamwork, continuing professional development, sharing good practice, management practice moving from a hierarchical structure to peer to peer learning, informal approach and student focussed, effective observations leading to effective assessments, involve the whole teaching community, students not aware that observation taking place. • Mr O’Connor presented on “Subject Choices from S1 – S6”. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S1 and S2 – all follow same curriculum. ○ Jan/Feb of S2 Careers Advice to assist with subject choices and Careers Evening in February. ○ S3 – choose 7 subjects + 2 reserves working towards level 4. Can change 1 – 2 subjects until 7th December in S3 – parents are involved in decisions. August to December in S3 – Skills Studies. From January in S3 – begin studying towards 		

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	<p>Nationals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S4 – Can include a Work Experience option or a College Course or a Higher but choices could be limited due to timetabling restrictions. New school with a higher school roll will require more teachers enabling a wider range of subjects to be offered. ○ S5 and S6 – A wide range of choice – National 4 and 5, Higher, Advanced Higher, College Course, Work Experience, Leadership opportunities, Study Periods. ● New for 2019/2020 – National Progression Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S5 and S6 ○ Wide range of topics at National 4, 5 and 6 ○ No end of year exam ○ Wide range of skills based, practical subjects ○ Continuous internal assessment with external verification ○ Initially subjects will be chosen that can be incorporated into existing Faculties as no additional staffing resource allocated. 		
Treasurer Update	<p>Bank Statement dated 1st June 2018 – balance £777.63</p> <p>£250 cheque issued on 5th October 2018 for 6th Year Common Room – balance £527.63.</p> <p>Notification received from bank regarding change of signatories. Bank statement has been received in school and will be forwarded to Treasurer.</p>	<p>Bank statement to be sent to Treasurer.</p>	<p>Mr Jones</p>
Fundraising Update	<p>Following a meeting with Dawn Brown of The Garioch Partnership, we will seek volunteers from the Parent Forum to work together with Dawn to apply for funding.</p>	<p>Note to be sent to members of Parent Forum to meet with Dawn early next term.</p>	<p>Elizabeth Watt & Mr Jones</p>

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	<p>First fundraising meeting has been held and we have decided try a few different events during the next couple of terms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easyfundraising account has been set up and promoted on Facebook page. Reminder for all parents to use site for their Christmas purchases. • General Knowledge quiz in late February/early March. Venue and format to be decided. <p>Nearly New Uniform and Recycling Study Guide event to be arranged for early May.</p>	<p>Reminder to use “Easyfundraising” for Christmas purchases on Facebook page.</p> <p>Venue to be booked and arrangements put in place for event. Arrange next planning meeting. Encourage guests to come along.</p> <p>Arrange a meeting to discuss plans ensuring Mr Jones kept informed.</p>	<p>Sheila Cunningham</p> <p>Fundraising sub-group Elizabeth Watt All PC Members</p> <p>Fundraising sub-group</p>
Communication with Guidance Team	The school has made a request for the website to be updated to include a Guidance Team contact form. Individual guidance teachers’ email addresses will not be published.	Update at next PC meeting.	Mr Jones
Social Media	Samantha Tribe has set up the PC Twitter account. Both the Twitter account and Facebook page are for sharing information only. Discussions on topics relevant to all Parent Forum members will be held at PC meetings.	Increase number of Twitter followers.	All PC members
Parental consultation on Aberdeenshire`s draft Parental Involvement and	Background information - Consultation PowerPoint . Encourage everyone to participate in the Online questionnaire regarding the Parental Involvement and Engagement Strategy or come along to one of the consultation events on Tuesday 4th	Reminder to be posted on Facebook page.	Sheila Cunningham

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Engagement Strategy 2018-2021 – Learning Together	<p>December at the Academy. Two sessions – 2-3pm or 6.30-7.30pm. The aims of this Strategy are to -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ensure parents are supported to be fully involved in the life and work of their children’s early learning and childcare setting or school;</i> • <i>encourage and support collaborative partnerships between practitioners, parents and families;</i> • <i>get the right support in place so that parents can engage in their child’s learning</i> 		
AOCB	Nothing advised		
Date of Next Meeting	<p>Thursday 7th February 2019 – Hut 2 – 6.30pm</p> <p>Head Teacher presentation topic - <u>“Improvement Planning: Ambitious plans to improve outcomes for all”</u>.</p>	<p>Request items for Agenda two weeks before meeting.</p> <p>Reminder issued on Facebook page and Twitter</p>	<p>Shona Strachan</p> <p>Sheila Cunningham Samantha Tribe</p>