**Inverurie Academy Parent Council**

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday 7th December 2021**

**MS Teams – 18.30 - 20.00**

1. Welcome (18.30 – 18.32)
2. Attending/Apologies (18.32 – 18.35)

In attendance: Cllr Lesley Berry, Laura O’ Conner, Mark Jones. Scott Campbell, Ruth Kydd Frances Swanston, Juliet Serrell, Cara Hay, Lindsay Aspey, Louise Anderson, Martin Misovic, Linda Barclay, Leanne Roberston, Alies Bartelds, Charlene Burnett, Stuart Laird

Apologies: Simon Glazier, Joanne Taylor, Sheila Cunningham, Gail Winchester, Louise Lidell, Jill Glennie, Stuart Gregg, Karen Niall, Sam Grant, Zara Coutts, Cllr Judy Whyte, Cllr Neil Baillie, Kay Diack, Charlotte Bathgate.

1. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes/Approval (18.35 – 18.55)

Minutes from 9th September 2021 as well as 23rd November 2021 meetings

Update – Re-Uniform, Mindset course, Coop-Community Fund

9 September minutes PC meeting after the AGM – approved (RK & AB)

MJ updates

- Defibrillator is now installed

- Reuse of uniform: 2 baskets in school foyer for places to collect the school uniform

Minutes of 23rd November meeting - these will be moved to January meeting for approval as not circulated to the committee prior to this meeting.

1. Treasurer Update (18.55 – 19.00)

Update – Fundraising

* Juliet updated committee £755 balance
* Cheque for £1500 Mindset training for pupils gratefully received by Inverurie Academy.

General fundraising: still opportunity to fundraise – even in covid times. AB reminded committee of Easy Fundraising. PC has an account on Easyfundraising,

RK – can we advertise Easyfundraising more? School to put info on Easyfundraising on the website when details provided by Parent Council.

MJ – Inverurie Academy offers scarfs and ties for sale from the the foyer, but this could be advertised more widely.

1. Head Teacher Update (19.00 – 19.25)

Update – Community Campus, OECD Report, Inspection, Staffing

**OECD Report – Key points**

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development - published in June. Education is one area that OECD cover. Scottish Gov asked OECD to review Curriculum for Excellence.

Four capacities under CforE but at schools we only really measure ‘successful learners’ comprehensively and we need to give due regard for the other three.

Mismatch between BGE and Senior phase, caused by the nature of the assessment/exam system. OECD found the two phases of school don’t fit as well as they should

* Too much documentation. Too complicated
* CforE doesn’t have a process for governance or evaluation/oversight.

Prof Ken Muir asked by Scottish Govt to run a consultation. Inverurie Academy were able to feed into his process directly with School Captains meeting with Prof Muir in November, along with Vincent Docherty from Aberdeenshire Council. Report due in February 2022

**Community Campus**

* Remaining demolition works should be completed by April 2022
* Campus car park extension March 2022
* All weather pitches completed June 2022
* Landscaping complete by July 2022

**Inspection – Education Scotland**

Follow up visit from ES 23 November 2021 - virtual meetings with PC and further meetings. In person visit, 4 members of the Visit Team ( 3 ES/1 Aberdeenshire)

Outcome - Chief Exec ES Gayle Gorman.

* *“Clearly overtaken all of the priority areas identified in our previous visits*”
* Staff have addressed the recommendations from the original inspection successfully. As a result we will make no more visits to the school in connection with the original inspection
* The school is now very well placed to continue its improvement journey

AB thanks MJ and leadership and all teachers to get to this outcome.

**Staffing**

MJ updates the PC on current vacancies:

Part of a Maths teacher

Maternity cover TVE Tracher

Depute Head Teacher

Head Teacher

In February planning starts for August 2022 expectations. Roll likely to increase from 1150 to 1250 7/8 members of staff to cater for the increase.

1. Communication (19.25 – 19.50)

Health & Wellbeing Survey, and Virtual Parents Evenings (Laura O’Connor, DHT)

LOC feedback to the PC with the H&W survey, LOC Recovery remit, track and monitor HWB data. First HWB survey after October holidays. 74% student response, 62% staff response rate. Same survey for both – looking to increase uptake.

Results shown by year group.

* Use data strength – feel safe, nurtured and responsible
* Focus areas: achieving, respected, included

Next set will be done after Christmas break.

It was asked whether there were comments boxes as part of the survey to get a better understanding of what the students are being asked. LOR confirmed comments were captured just not presented in the table to PC.

LOR updated the PC on the virtual Parents Evening:

3 Parent evenings this term. S5/6, S1 and S4 – online booking system, parents preferred the online system.

5 mins were too short – to change to 7 minutes

Not enough time to ask questions – advise parents to use the comment box on booking

This academic session will continue with virtual ones but this may change 2022/23

There is a cost to the school to use the online PES. The balance of parents would rather use the online system.

Interpreters can be used as part of the service

1. AOB (19.50 – 19.55)

JS – how does the money from Easy Fundraising get to the school? It does not appear to be coming into the PC accounts. - AB to speak to Juliet about this to check.

AB – Parent asked - her child was not encouraged to put school seatbelt on the bus. School is only contact, is there an official policy on this - can the driver encourage/enforce seatbelt wearing on the school bud. MJ to find out through the PTU.

RK & AB updated the PC - MJs replacement - a preferred candidate has been identified and further news will be shared asap with the school community. This has since been announced as Mr Neil Hendry.

AB – Goodbye to Mr Jones. All will miss you. A massive thank you from the PC. A card to present to you. Book. Kilted frog & Craigdon Voucher.

MJ Thank you – to AB and to Elizabeth for all the support from the PC

1. Date (and place) of next meeting (19.55 – 20.00)

January 19th Head may be in place, but definitely Depute Head will be in attendance.

FS 7/12/21