

**INVERURIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**7.30pm – Hybrid Meeting: in person at ICC and via Teams**

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>
Welcome	Alies welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first hybrid meeting to be held (and thanked Struan for support in setting this up to enable parents to attend)		
Attending / Apologies	<p><u>Attendance in person</u>: Alies Bartelds (Chair), Juliet Sorrell (Treasurer), Ruth Kydd (Secretary), Neil Hendry (Head Teacher), Struan Gardner (Depute Head Teacher), Lynda Ansell, Linda Barclay, Fiona Walker, Martin Misovic, Frances Swanson, Desray Bothma, Ellen Delph, William Heinemann, Marlene Heinemann, Laura Marr, Andy Marr, Lynn Thomson, Thomas McLeman, Leeanne Robertson, Anne Gibson, Cllr Neil Baillie, Cllr Marion Ewen, Ola Odunmbaku and Charlotte Bathgate</p> <p><u>Attendance via Teams</u>: Simon Glazier, CarolAnn Lorimer, Joanne Taylor, Carolyn Wilson, Karen Simpson, Sam Gordon, Cllr David Keating</p> <p>Apologies: Vaila Spencer, Cllr Judy Whyte, Moragh Boyle, Jenny Coutts</p>		
Matters Arising from previous minutes and approval of minutes	<p>Neil provided the update on the Outward Bound trip as follows:</p> <p>S3 leadership group going in 2 weeks further to the recruitment process. Their output will be to discuss and come up with a project that will impact the community / primary / secondary education over the next 18 months.</p> <p>It is proposed that all S2s go on the trip in Jan / Feb 2024: currently approx. 130 going, hoping to increase the numbers prior to the date. Neil will be working with Inverurie BID 27<sup>th</sup> September to do a Developing Young Workforce (DYW) presentation and tour to support the school, which may include the outward bound trip.</p> <p>12 staff will be sent with the S2s to ensure ratios are maintained and it will be during assessment weeks so this can be accommodated as the senior phase won't be in class.</p>	Consideration for a possible 3 <sup>rd</sup> year / teacher presentation post trip at the next PC meeting.	Neil Hendry

	Minutes from May 2023 proposed by Alies Bartelds and Andy Marr seconded		
Treasurer update	As per AGM summary		
Head Teacher update	<p>Please see slide pack related to this:</p> <p><b>Staff:</b> in a good place and attracting staff to work at IA.</p> <p><b>Pupils:</b> There is an increased role, up by 100 to approx. 1300. IA is now the biggest school in Aberdeenshire &amp; Aberdeen City. 1<sup>st</sup> years have had a positive start, and the clubs fair was very successful today</p> <p><b>Exam results:</b> the school is pleased with exam results: nationally results are down and there is a stricter appeal process in place, together with some challenges re marking from the SQA. Staff do individual analysis of their own results – there are faculty improvement plans in place to assist in improving results. Attainment reviews within faculties evolve constantly over tracking, recording etc.</p> <p>Struan confirmed that also the breadth of courses being taken is increasing – eg vocational as opposed to Higher course, which could mean that it isn't necessarily captured in the stats. Twenty eight (28) young people completed their Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) this last year. Some former FA students have gone on to study for primary school teaching off the back of their experience as part of the FA within schools. Nescol are now providing 4<sup>th</sup> year on day release for particular courses.</p> <p><b>Feedback session at May PC meeting:</b> the outputs from this session will be shared with everyone. Lots of positive feedback on the curriculum, there is a plan in place for google classrooms to improve/evolve even more. Information evenings to be increased this year – face to face parents eve, curriculum eves too.</p> <p><b>Priorities for this coming year:</b> as per slide, a renewed focus on the house system and the amendments to the Enhanced Provision Centre (EPC) with a new wall being installed, together with a nurture space with a kitchen and sensory room too.</p>	Output from May PC meeting to be shared	Neil Hendry
Fundraising update	Quiz night: Alies confirmed that the Kintore Arms have offered the room and a quizmaster is in place, just need to firm up dates.	Quiz Night date, marketing and	Alies Bartelds / Linda Barclay

		details to be finalised	
Dates for the diary	<p>PC meetings are proposed to be hybrid going forward and are due to be held on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monday 13 Nov 2023</li> <li>- Tuesday 23 Jan 2024</li> <li>- Thursday 21 Mar 2024</li> <li>- Wednesday 29 May 2024</li> </ul> <p>Here is also a link to the key dates for the coming term:  <a href="https://inverurie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/School-Calendar-Parents-2023-2024.pdf">https://inverurie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/School-Calendar-Parents-2023-2024.pdf</a></p>		
AOCB	<p>Discussion raised around tracking reports: these are sent out to ensure consistency but if additional information is required, parents and carers should contact the school. Guidance will come out for those who are new to it.</p> <p>Prelims planned for Jan 24, study leave planned for this too. Subject choice for S2 will be Feb 24</p> <p>SQA will be phased out over the coming years – awaiting update in due course.</p> <p>ClIr Ewen very positive about the recruitment of staff, ClIr Baillie also commented it was good to see the positive impact of FAs</p>		