

Fortrose Academy Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting held 16th May 2016

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| | <p>Present</p> <p>Donnie Mackenzie (Rector), Jacquie Ross, Val Paterson, Shona Bowman, Barbara Gray, William Gray, Jane Young, Ellen Addison, Jillian Mackenzie, Charlotte Stewart, Hilary Sweeney (Chair), Clare Caswell, Drieka Maliepaard, Andrew Thin, Cindy Reeves, Jo-Anne Pugh, Nina Torrance, Kate Whitson, Sheila van Hovvik, Craig Stuart, Lisa Fox, Patrick Fox</p> | |
| 1 | <p>Apologies</p> <p>Jenny Hall, Shirley Kelly, Andy Rowlands, Gillian McNaught, Becky Nichol</p> | |
| 2. | <p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>Proposed - Hilary Sweeney Seconded - Jane Young</p> | |
| 3. | <p>Matters arising from previous minutes</p> <p>None</p> | |

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| <p>4.</p> | <p>Highland Parent Council Partnership</p> <p>Fergus Weir attended the meeting. All PC's are communicating within the newly set up HPCP via forum. The HPCP has established a working relationship with senior members of the Highland Council Jim Steven/Bill Alexander, local councillors and has established links with MSP's. It has raised awareness of the impact the budget cuts has had on Highland schools (especially through teacher reduction).</p> <p>HPCP intends to ramp up pressure straight away post recent election. There will be an imminent press release to education committee (and Angela Constance) based on feedback from secondary schools in Highland and this will also be directed to education committee members. This pressure will continue in to next year (local council elections due in 2017) - more money could be ploughed back in to education if correct councillors voted for.</p> <p>Jim Steven (HC) is forging ahead with different education delivery methods but these require adequate broadband and this is currently not available. IT problems are a real sticking point in delivering chrome notebooks in 2017. HPCP needs to raise awareness by increasing the pressure from parents, therefore more parents need to be targeted. In order for this to happen, all data protection forms going out to parents will have an opt out tick box regarding receiving information from their parent council.</p> | |
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5.

Rectors Report

School uniform

All pupils to wear shirt and tie as of new session in August.

Staffing/Curriculum

This year's timetable has been more challenging than ever. Most subjects will be taught but some with reduced periods.

Advanced higher/higher french will be combined.

There will be no advanced higher business studies.

Art classes for seniors - limited periods.

Probationers yet to be appointed.

3rd/4th years are completely full - no room for any more pupils.

Friday pm - only small savings will be realised as LTA's will be held in school buildings.

Fundraising for trust fund - new website layout in process of being put together - to include exact list of what the money is required for e.g. minibus.

Award ceremony

Junior ceremony - (real achievement awards)

Senior ceremony - one student will be chosen from each subject at each level (Nat 4, Nat 5, Higher, Ad Higher) not purely based on achievement. Hard work and good attitude will also be rewarded.

Graduation ceremony - S6 pupils and parents. Photographer present. Opportunity for pupils to discuss what they have achieved, what they are planning. Guest speaker. Special meal.

Assessment

It is felt that there has been over-assessment. The exam board are examining the situation and will hold the SQA to account. Teacher's union to take action/protest.

S6 experience/contract

The new contract is due to go out to senior pupils (S5's moving in to S6) at the end of this session. Final comments/tweaking.

New Electronic system – JR has been training staff on the new system. This will enable better easy access to information by teachers for parents and also will make it easier to provide two

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| <p>6.</p> | <p>Friday pm Eden Court are happy to put on drama classes (possible school production?) Leisure centre will meet demand for classes Possible study support (tutoring) Chess/Bridge? Cycling/running/nutrition</p> | |
| <p>7.</p> | <p>Fundraising</p> <p>Car rally - August? Highland Gathering - 23rd June Grant for minibus? Planning gain (Tulloch's?)</p> <p>Ellen to meet with JR to assist with fundraising.</p> | |
| <p>8.</p> | <p>Date of future meetings</p> <p>Wednesday 14th September - AGM</p> | |