

# Dunblane High School Parent Council



## Draft Minutes for the Meeting of the Parent Council

26th February 2018

Venue – McCarron Room

7.00 – 8.45pm

### Attendees

Sandy Fleming (Chair)

Stuart MacKay (Head Teacher)

Lorraine Thomson (Vice Chair)

Vicki Sheridan (Secretary)

Lynne Ross (Treasurer)

Liz Fraser

Claire Clark

Mary Toop

Roberta Hibbert

Jen Marshall

Kendal Delany

Richard Noakes (DHT)

### 1. Apologies

Apologies received from Chinny Iroegbu. This is likely to be the last meeting which Chinny would attend since her son will be leaving the school this year. Sandy thanked Chinny in her absence for all her help during her time on the Parent Council.

Following the meeting apologies were received from Maggie Gorman and Theresa Deakin.

### 2. Approval of Previous Minutes dated 28<sup>th</sup> August 2017

Lorraine approved minutes and was seconded by Lynne.

### 3. Chair's Report

All attendees introduced themselves.

Sandy reviewed the previous action points from the last PC meeting.

- Clothes bin – Stuart to check whether the number of donations has increased since it has been promoted on Facebook.
- The date for the Careers Fair is confirmed as 7<sup>th</sup> June. This date is to be put onto the school calendar.
- Thanks for all prizes provided for the Christmas Raffle. The School have requested that the PC run a further raffle at the spring concert on their behalf. The money will go straight into the school bank account.
- Volunteering – Richard Noakes confirmed that the school has a list of charities that could be accessed by D of E participants.  
Lynne suggested that she and Maggie could review all volunteering requirements to ensure that no one business is swamped with volunteering requests. Liz also noted that further volunteering opportunities may become available in the 'dementia' sectors since the Council have approved further investment in Stirling as a dementia centre.

SM

SM

LR/MG

Sandy introduced Roberta Hibbert. Roberta's son has dyslexia and she has been researching available information which may help pupils with additional support needs (ASN), to prepare for exams. Stuart confirmed that the school has a staged intervention system in place to support the young people with identified ASN that operates by means of additional assessments and reviews.

20% of the school role have identified ASN however there is no specific council funding for this.

The school have an IT package (Read Write Gold) to assist within the learning support department. Roberta suggested using an approved SQA package that she has found. It is circa £100 for 1000 licences. Stuart says he will investigate it.

SM

Sandy also confirmed that the STPC – support organisation for school Parent Councils – has been renamed Connect. They are available to give support, training, general information and advice to PCs when required. They can also provide Insurance for PC events. Chippy is the current Connect contact and a new contact will be confirmed at the AGM.

ALL



<p>main SQA exams in May. Live and Learn periods and supported study sessions are being provided.</p> <p>The Pathways event held for S4/5 pupils was a success with good feedback received.</p> <p>S1 parents' night is scheduled for later in the week as are S5 reports.</p> <p>Kendal Delaney confirmed that preparations for the end of term school show are underway involving the music and drama departments and Pamela Mackie (Dunblane Centre). Dates for the show are 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June.</p> <p>Stuart confirmed that this year the S6 head boy/girl election procedure will change to involve an open vote, with those pupils interested preparing a manifesto and a presentation on which voting will be based.</p> <p>The Pupil Equity fund provided by Scottish Government and based on numbers of students eligible for free school meals, has awarded DHS £10.8k this year. This compares to the £12k awarded last year and is less than expected. Scrutiny is required when allocating this money – last year expenditure included provision of welfare support workers, the nurture group and excursion support.</p>	
<p><b>6. Sub-Committee Reports</b></p> <p>Career Fair – the date for the Fair of 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018 is to be put onto school calendar.</p> <p>70 parents have been invited to participate and circa 50 have confirmed. This year we have additional parents able to provide information about apprenticeships and one parent whose job involves identifying expanding industries and job sectors. We are also approaching ex-pupils from the school in the hope that they can give advice and insight into the university/college experience.</p> <p>It was agreed that some of the PC funds would be used to purchase better signage for the Careers Fair. Budget costs to be confirmed.</p> <p>We are also hoping to establish a future careers link with the primary schools. Lorraine will contact primary school PCs to discuss this further. Stuart suggested that this topic could be discussed at the regular HTs meeting. Stuart to confirm date of the next meeting.</p> <p>Fundraising matters - it was agreed that, apart from a Spring Concert Raffle which will be organised by the school and supported by the PC, no further fundraising is required by the PC at present.</p>	<p>LT</p> <p>LT/VS/LR</p> <p>SM/LT</p>

<p>Meeting of Parent Councils from the Stirling Council area – Lorraine confirmed that this was a very positive meeting. It was attended by members of the PCs from St Modan’s High, Wallace High and Balfron High and was hosted at Dunblane. The parties present explained the role of their PC and its contributions.</p> <p>The principle points that came out of the meeting were as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A similar meeting should be held annually</li> <li>• An efficient form of fundraising is to set up a ‘100’ Club – parents pay £1 per month (x10mths taking account of holidays) per child or as many as they like and each quarter there is a draw when prizes are awarded - say £50 1<sup>st</sup> prize, £30 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, £15 3<sup>rd</sup> prize. After deducting the prizes, the remaining money is profit.</li> <li>• School lunches – All PCs indicated that they believed improvements could be made to the current school meal provisions. We agreed that Sandy would prepare a questionnaire which will be circulated to all PCs, and then each PC will approach their pupils and parents to get feedback.</li> </ul> <p>Lorraine suggested that we review some of the initiatives suggested by the other schools, at the upcoming AGM to determine whether any are worth implementing at Dunblane High school.</p>	SF
<p><b>7. Any Other Council Business</b></p> <p>Mr Noakes gave a presentation to the PC about Skills for Life learning and Work, a copy of which is attached.</p> <p>The presentation centred on the interaction between the school, employers, 3<sup>rd</sup> party employers and parents and emphasised the need for good communication and links between the school and colleges and work places for today’s markets.</p> <p>The school also has a board position on the Dunblane Bid committee which helps improve communication with local businesses and employers.</p> <p>Currently, most young people follow a 7/5/3 system in respect of National 5s/Highers/Advanced Highers but opportunities to deviate from this structure are available, which means each young person can tailor their learning to suit their needs and skills.</p> <p>In addition, £39000 funding has been secured by Discover Dunblane in partnership with the school to establish a community led employability resource managed by the young people of Dunblane and supported by local businesses and other stakeholders, to ensure equity in supporting all having access to better employment opportunities.</p> <p>Date of the next Parent Council Meeting is the AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018.</p>	ALL