

Minutes of Parent Council Meeting held on

Monday, 29th August 2016

MINUTE SET NO 44

ST ANDREW'S AND ST BRIDE'S PARENT COUNCIL

Meeting of: St. Andrew's and St. Bride's Parent Council, East Kilbride

Location: Conference Room, St Andrew's and St Bride's High School. Platthorn Drive, East Kilbride

Date: Monday, 29th August 2016

Present	Mrs Caroline McDonald	Chair
	Mrs Hilary Kirby	Parent Member (Treasurer)
	Mrs Samantha Clayton	Parent Member
	Mrs Pamela Hagan	Parent Member
	Mr Philip Harris	Parent Member
	Mrs Elaine Martin	Parent Member
	Mrs Fiona McLean	Parent Member
	Mrs Claire Perrett	Parent Member
	Ms Jane Porter	Parent Member
	Mr Jim Toner	Parent Member
	Mr John Russell	Church Representative
	Mr Alan Cresswell	Staff Member
	Mr Brian Nelson	Staff Member
	Mr Kenny Slowey	Staff Member
	Mrs Fiona Mullen	Head Teacher and Principal Advisor

1 Welcome and Apologies

Mrs McDonald welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new school session and Mr Russell opened the meeting with a prayer. Apologies were received from Mrs J Cannon.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The Minutes from the meeting of 13th June were read and approved.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4 School Business

4.1 Staffing

Mrs Mullen advised that the school has a full complement of staff and detailed the following:

- Mr Bill Kerr, the school librarian, has returned from Kyrgyzstan and is working 4 days in the school library (Tuesday to Friday).
- Mrs Marianne Hogarth, History, and Mrs Kiem Doyle (0.5 FTE), Modern Studies, have secured permanent posts in the school after completing their NQT year last school session.
- **New Staff**
Mrs Lynn Jones and Mrs Lesley Blackwood – Learning Support
Mr Jason Mulligan – P.T. Modern Languages
Miss Laura Muir – Drama
Mrs Dawn Waddell – Drama
Mr Fraser McNicol (0.5 FTE) – Geography
Miss Kirsty Johnstone – Biology (cover for maternity leave)
- **Newly Qualified Teachers**
Miss Karen Hale (NQT) – Art
Miss Navdip Ahuja (NQT) – Chemistry
Mr Stuart Walker (NQT) – Computing
Miss Louise Dickson (NQT) – English
Mr Greg McVicar (NQT) – English

4.2 SQA Examination Results

Mrs Mullen gave a powerpoint presentation on the results of the SQA examinations. Mrs Mullen congratulated the whole school community on the incredible results and highlighted the following results:

- S4 Results
100% achieved **3 or more** National Qualifications
63% achieved **5 or more** NQ 5s (up from 61% in 2015)
24 pupils achieved **8 A grades**
- S5 Results
63% achieved **3 or more** Higher Grade awards
33% achieved **5** Higher Grade awards
18 pupils achieved **5 A grades**
- S6 Results
96 Advanced Higher passes

Mrs Mullen confirmed that not only had the number of passes improved but the percentage of NQ5 pupils not achieving had dropped from 13% (2015) to 4% (2016). Mrs Mullen concluded her presentation by advising that staff were delighted with the results but recognise the need for continued improvement.

4.3 Prizegiving

Mrs Mullen reported that the school Prizegiving will take place on Tuesday 20th September. The invited speaker will be Mr Jamie Andrew, Scottish mountaineer and quadruple amputee.

4.4 Improvement Plan Overview

Mrs Mullen discussed the following with regard to the improvement plan:

- Curriculum
- Improvement
- Developing Scotland's Young Workforce
- GIRFEC

Referring back to an item within the Curriculum heading, Mr Slowey advised that a numeracy group had been set up and that they would convert the teacher's guide to numeracy into a guide for parents/carers. Mr Slowey passed round an example of this. Mr Slowey intends to have this out to all staff within 2 weeks and then it will be posted onto the school website to help support parents/carers. The aim of this is to ensure uniformity across staff and parents/carers on the subject of numeracy.

Mr Nelson advised that a working group, to discuss Digital Literacy across the school, was being set up. Mr Nelson is keen to organise an Internet Safety talk for parents/carers and suggested that this take place at the Parent Forum meeting.

4.5 Head Boy/Girl

Mrs Mullen confirmed the introduction of Head Boy/Girl and Depute Head Boy/Girl. 24 S6 pupils have applied and will be interviewed on Wednesday 31st August.

4.6 Assertive Mentoring

Mrs Mullen advised that this year a number of S5 pupils and staff (mentors) will be involved in the Assertive Mentoring Initiative. Pupils will meet with their mentors once a month. Mentors will support pupils to achieve their potential.

4.7 School Building Refresh

Mrs Mullen reported that the school building has undergone a 10 year refresh. New carpets have been fitted, the corridors, the street area and all external wood have been painted.

Fundraising

Mrs Kirby advised that the Christmas fayre is the next fundraising event and will be held in November. The fundraising balance is £2800 approximately. A short discussion took place on how the funds are being/can be utilised.

5 Correspondence

There was no correspondence recorded.

7 Any Other Competent Business

7.1 School Skirt

Mrs Mullen advised that a good number of S1 pupils are wearing the new school skirt and hopefully this number will grow across the different year groups.

7.2 School Lockers

It was mentioned that the feedback from some S1 parents/carers was that the process for allocating school lockers was not working well. This will be reviewed for next year.

7.3 Duke of Edinburgh

Mrs Mullen was asked what the next step was regarding the Duke of Edinburgh awards. Mrs Mullen advised that the pupils who achieved their bronze medals will attend an official awards ceremony in The Townhouse in Hamilton.

This school session S3 pupils will be targeted to take part in the programme.

4 members of school staff will be trained to become part of the expedition team. The school will try to buy some resources in a bid to bring costs down for pupils.

7.4 Pastoral Life of the School

Mr Russell advised the following:

- S1 pupils attended Mass in St Bride's Church last week.
- S1 classes will go on retreat to Carfin in the coming weeks.
- 55 S6 pupils will climb Tinto Hill on 18th September

This concluded the meeting. Mr Russell closed the meeting with a prayer. The next meeting will be a meeting of the **Parent Forum** and will take place on Monday, **10th October** at 7pm in the Street area.

Signed: *Russell*

Position: *Chair*

Date: *21st November 2016*