



Perth Grammar School Parent Council

Meeting: Wednesday 2nd December 2020

Attendees:

Parent and carers: Chair C Langton (CL), J Napier (JN), R Wilson (RW), M Mailer (MM), S Shinwell (SS), G Gatherer (GG), L Macdonald (LM), W Boag (WB), J Robertson (JR), N Farquhar (NF), R Norris (RN), N MacNee (NM)

PGS: F Robertson (FR), G Gibson (GG), C Stevenson (CS), S Jewell (SJ), I Dow (ID), D Ross (DR)

P & KC Council: Councillor Andrew Parrott (AP), Councillor Chris Ahern (CA)

Apologies:

Parents: A Stark (AS)

1	Welcome and apologies	CL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome given by Chair, C Langton, thanking everyone for joining the meeting which was held via Teams. • Apologies read by C Langton. 	
2	Minutes and matters arising from previous meeting	CL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no matters arising from the previous meeting 	
3	Head Teacher update	FR
	<p>Staffing Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four staff currently shielding being covered by remote (often live) teaching and supported by supply staff. • This term we have experienced staffing challenges in the Science faculty and are working with the council's HR team to help us to resource this moving forward. • Introducing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Glenn Gibson, Principal Teacher Learner Support ○ Erica Stewart - Teacher of Maths ○ Mhairi Mackay MCR Pathways ○ Student Teachers: Maths English Drama HE ○ Pupil Care and Welfare officer / Literacy and numeracy teacher appointed through Pupil Equity Funding. ○ Lynsey Coull - Business and Management Officer <p>Education Scotland - Action Plan Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FR presented report and progress to date at Lifelong Learning Committee on 2 November 2020. This can be viewed here (from 22 minutes onwards): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HU1LmZr9XEs • Term 2 Visit took place 27 November. • Education Scotland working with the school on a support basis until they resume their scrutiny functions again. 	

Covid-19

- Track and Trace significant undertaking for school leadership teams.
- PE
 - Indoor prioritised for essential certificate classes.
 - Changing 'areas' use must be kept to a minimum.
- Urge parents to take on board Tier 3 requirements beyond school e.g., other young people coming to your home (has resulted in families having to self-isolate).
- 'Operation Stung' in Perth being undertaken by Police re: anti-social behaviour. Stick to the FACTs.

PGS 5

- FR presentation on our definition of high-quality learning and teaching.

Achievements and Successes

- Microsoft Showcase Incubator School.
- OurWorld Competition - Modern Languages Best Use of Language Award.
- BookWeek
- Foodbank Collection
- Seating in reflective garden and outdoor classroom area.
- Remainder of term - December (Christmas has arrived at Perth Grammar) - a few surprises in store as we near the end of term.

4

Head Girls update

MR

Foodbank

- Over 800 donations received.
- House points awarded for each item donated.

House Pride

- Trying to encourage pride in the three houses within the school.
- Would like to have a visual display of the house colours similar system to the charity voting coin collections used in supermarkets.
- Decorated three Christmas trees to represent each house using the house colours.
- Christmas Jumper Day on the 11th December for house points

Parent Council £400

- Parent Council have funds available to the senior pupil leadership team to improve the school. (ACTION FOR FUTURE MEETING)
- Pupils have been asked for suggestions in their registration classes – still to be followed up.
- Mr Jewel is happy to cover in extra cost if over the £400 budget.

Twitter

- Follow senior pupil leadership team on twitter @PGS_LT

5	Health and Wellbeing Update	CS
<p>Safer School's App</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS spoke to the meeting about the plans to launch the Safer Schools app as part of the Health and Wellbeing package for the school. • The app empowers users to develop cyber safety through online modules. • For parents as well as pupils. • Parents volunteered to work with CS to assess parent views of the app. 		
6	PT of Additional Support for Learning Introduction	GG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FR introduced G Gibson to the parents, who gave the meeting an overview of his plans in the role as PT of Additional Support for Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will look at the whole school provision of learning support as well as the enhanced provision. ○ Listen to the pupil voice in the development of a shared vision for learning support to raise attainment and achievement across the whole school. ○ GG will also liaise with feeder schools to future plan for pupils joining the school. 		
7	School refurbishment and COVID (e.g., PE in cold weather)	SJ
<p>Toilet Refurbishments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will commence on the 11th January starting on the Bute Drive side of the school. • Access to these toilets will be closed for 3 months. • Contractors will be on site which has the potential to impact on movement around the school. • Plans shown to meeting. <p>Medical Room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Now located next to the reception to increase access for parents.. <p>House Meeting Rooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These have now been created and colour coded in house colours. <p>Support Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will work with GG to enhance the support area of the school. <p>Long Term Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure upgrades in a number of departments in the school e.g., Science. • Assembly hall has been converted into a social space and new furniture to be bought to enhance this area. • A fence is to be erected before Easter to surround the bus park on the Bute Drive side of the school to increase safety. • Pupils were surveyed on ways to improve the school's outdoor space – 100 responses still to be reviewed. • Photographs and videos of school improvements will be taken to share with parents in the school bulletins to show progress. 		

8	COVID	SJ
<p>Ventilation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15% ventilation is required per classroom. • Size of the classroom and the number of pupils in each class impacts on the number of windows that need to be opened to achieve the correct ventilation. • Encourage pupils to dress appropriately for the colder weather. <p>PE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One senior class has indoor access at one time. • All other classes to be held outdoors. • Changing areas set out to meet social distancing requirements and may need changed. • Other options have been explored but have not been successful so far. 		
9	PGS 50 th birthday	FR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perth Grammar School will turn 50 in June. • Celebrations were being planned but due to COVID other suggestions will now be considered. • Any parents that would like to be involved in the celebration organisation please contact the school. 		
10	Treasurers update	RW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Account balance £3055.90 • Parents Booking System to cost £424. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concerns were raised that this may not be the best use of parent council funds. ○ This is not an official PKC requirement; therefore, The Authority will not pay for this system, which is why the Parent Council have been asked to cover the cost. ○ The Authority are currently looking into developing their own online booking system for schools, but it is not yet in place. ○ Agreement to pay again this year but to be considered if this will be paid for again next year before the first parent night is held in November. (ACTION FOR FUTURE MEETING) • Annual accounts to be submitted to the council for review, budget for the following year will be received after this review – amount to be received in unknown. (ACTION FOR FUTURE MEETING) 		
11	AOB	All
<p>COVID</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Parrot asked that all parents and carers remain vigilant against the spread of COVID 19 by recognising signs and symptoms of the virus quickly and following the guidelines on testing and isolating. 		AP

COVID Communication Policy

- Evidence still shows limited transmission in Scottish schools.
- When a case arises 15-20 young people need to isolate.
- School must look the seating plans for each class the young person has attended.
- Test and trace heavily relies on the young person giving accurate information.
- School can't talk about individual cases.
- After recent number of cases, it was felt that sending out the same letter to parents would lose impact, Public Health agreed therefore a more generalised approach will be taken.

CL closed the meeting.

Future Meeting Dates

17th February 2021

Actions for future meetings

Item Number	Action	Completion Date
1.	Head Girl to propose plans to Parent Council for fund available.	Feb 2021
2.	Parent Council Accounts to be submitted to PKC.	Mar 2021
3.	Payment of Parent Night Online Booking System – decision if Parent Council Funds will pay for this.	Prior to Nov 2021