



Perth Grammar School Parent Council

Minutes

Meeting: Tuesday 12th November 2024, 6.30pm.

Attending: Roy McIntosh, Maddison Moore (PLT), Louise Awburn, Cllr Andrew Parrott, Alexandra McQueen, Jenny Robertson, Anna Jellye, Cllr Chris Ahern, Joann McIntyre, Fiona Robertson.

Apologies: Janice Napier, Anna Brown (PLT)

1.	Welcome and apologies	RM
2.	Pupil Leadership Team	MM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pupil Leadership Team reflected on the past term successes and ongoing projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chase Quiz was a really good success with a great build up right up to the final which was great to see. Everyone made posters and even a funny video. S1 ISP Almond were the winners and went against Mr Duncan who lost. - Blood Donation – S6 were offered the opportunity to give blood at Bertha Park. This was a long process but successful and gave Maddie the opportunity to talk to other leadership team leaders so schools could connect. - Remembrance Day – Maddie & Anna attended with Ms Robertson. - Tanzania Meetings are being held and pupils have started to put their application through. - Winter Ceilidh is soon approaching. S5 groups have tasks to achieve during tutor time and S6s have planned a very nice playlist together. It has been decided that the money raised will go to charity. - Plans on event days for S5 and S6 classes are being discussed and more information is to follow. - There has been some issues with Prefix duties although rotas were made ie people not being able to come and no replacement was sent. As a result, rotas will now but put on Teams and TVs at break time so everyone can see them and this should stop any issues going forward. 	

3. Headteacher Report

FR

- Industrial Action – The school had done everything possible to reduce the effect the strike actions caused. ISP was the most affected as support roles could not be filled. It was a difficult time for everyone.
- S1 Freshers Evening was very well attended.
- Gillian Hamilton, Head of Education Scotland, came to visit the school which was a great opportunity for Perth Grammar to be recognised and highlight our focus on learning & teaching.
- Parents Evenings are planned, and parents should receive their invitations shortly to book their appointments.
- End of Term visits are due. Term 1 focused on learning and teaching as well as attainment.
- School Improvement – Standards & Quality Report Published.
- Improvement and Change Groups for seniors – Staff are involved in this model.
- “The curriculum shapes qualifications not the other way around”, Cabinet Secretary comment on Education Reform. We are looking to introduce more project-based learning on the curriculum.
- Solarpunk project has been great for S1 and we are going to explore other experiences in partnership with Daydream Believers and Education Scotland (as per the school improvement plan). Encouraging leadership and engagement from all staff to help modernise our curriculum and deliver the skills agenda.
- Travel Plan – This is always published on the school website, and it is up for renewal. We are looking to change the 10 spaces car park beside bus spaces to improve safety.
- Secondary Learning Estate Review and online survey – this includes Bertha, The Academy and Perth Grammar. This is the future of education in Perth city looking at 8-10 years from now and how it will affect the next generations school settings. Potentially looking at catchment areas. Parents encouraged to respond: [Secondary Schools in Perth City - Perth & Kinross Council Citizen Space - Citizen Space](#)
- Elected Members:
Cllr Parrott mentioned that PKC has invested well in education structure which includes Bertha, new Riverside, New High School which have been built to the highest standards. PKC is looking at the schools rolls over the next 15 years with school age declining most likely by 20%. It is important for parents, and everyone involved to express their views by responding to the survey, not just for tomorrow but for the next 8-10 year timeframe, this is for future generations. Cllr Ahern also said that PKC is spending more money but this is so schools

become a nicer environment with Riverside using the least power at 3% compared to the swimming pool.

4.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenny stated there is £1832.62 left in the Parent Council bank account. • Delighted that all the money from "The Perth Decides" fund has been spent and was used for new polytunnels and the community garden. • Fundraising - We still have money coming in from Easyfundraising. Easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand. Parent Council to think about how to raise awareness. 	JR
5.	<p>Parent Council Development Sessions (Creative Conversations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The creative conversations is a concept for external speakers to deliver hybrid/live sessions. The parent council may wish to use this concept to improve conversations between parents and the school. Usually the meetings last 1h30 not longer and is a good way to get people together and discuss different subjects to raise parents engagement around school topics. We could maybe do a survey to find out what parents would like to discuss? Jenny mentioned that we should look into topics that have been brought up in the past and were successful and design a library of topics in year groups as S5 topics will be different from S1's. 	RM/ALL
6.	<p>Parent Council Webpage Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to have a closer look at what information we have on the Parent Council webpage on school website. • What could we add or do differently? We could use successes we have had and also use the information we have put on the S1 Freshers Night to raise awareness on what we do. We could also add the information to the Parent Bulletin and on social media platforms once the template has been approved. 	RM/ALL

7.	<p>Parent Council Constitution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the constitution been reviewed recently? • Discussion held around whether the constitution could be changed to be more user friendly but it seems it is pretty standard. The constitution is a reminder to understand what a Parent Council is there for and a reminder of your duties. Fiona suggested that all Parent Council members should re-read the constitution and agree whether or not changes need to be made. Parent Council will discuss this further. 	RM/ALL
8.	<p>AOB & date of next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roy mentioned there are 2 spaces for parent council members to attend the ASN Parent Network Meeting which will be held on 26th November 6-7.30pm. An email with the details will follow if anyone can make it. • Cllr Chris Ahern wanted to highlight that 4 Councillors have agreed that the entire city centre will become a 20MPH zone expect for a couple of roads to be determined. Schools have signs just now stating they are a 20MPH zone but these will be removed although schools will still have signs to say this is a school zone. • Cllr Andrew Parrott discussed how the roadworks were necessary and is hoping that in the spring Tay Street will reopen. We are looking into disruptions to both bridges in the meantime but unfortunately theres never a good time to do roadworks and PKC do try to plan the best way they can. • Alexandra brought up the subject of Music Tuitions and how parents could get more information on what is available to pupils especially since the school are looking to put a Pipe Band together. Cllr Parrott said we should contact Lynsey Paterson, Music Co-Ordinator at PKC to discuss this further. • Jenny wanted to discuss the Christmas Hamper we had last year at the school show which raised between £90-£100. This year the show will be on 10th December and the Parent Council agreed we would go ahead and do the hamper again this year. Tickets will be sold on the day £5 per strip or £1 per ticket. • Fiona wanted to discuss the news coverage on the Knife Angel coming to Perth which is absolutely amazing. Cllr Ahern pointed out that the newly refurbished museum has won a national award for the Unicorn Exhibition and the museum is being put forward for “Best new museum in the world award”. • Fiona also mentioned she had a meeting with Street Pastors who are unfortunately down to just 6 volunteers and really need more people to get involved. Anyone who has a little time to spare please get in touch with the school. Perth Grammar has always benefited from Street Pastors so we would love to be able to return the favour. <p>• Date of next meeting – 4th February 2025 6:30pm</p>	ALL
