



Perth Grammar School Parent Council

Minutes

Meeting: Tuesday 23rd January 2024, 6.30pm.

Attending: Janice Napier, Jenny Robertson, Fiona Robertson, Roy McIntosh, Greg Duncan, Christine Adam, Alexandra McQueen, Cheryl McIntosh, David Sinclair, Andrew Davies

Apologies: Aimee Stark, Shona Shinwell, Cllr Andrew Parrott, Cllr Chris Ahern

1.	Welcome and apologies	JN
2.	Pupil Leadership Team A&A	AD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew confirmed that the Winter Ceilidh and Winter Disco were very successful and £778 were raised in total. Between £500-£600 will go to CRY and the remaining money will be kept for another event they would like to organize. Andrew thanked everyone involved for their support. • Christmas Jumper Day and Food-bank Appeal were very good • Down Syndrome Crocs & Flipflops event is coming up on 21st March • Royal Scottish Geographical Society – Andrew attended the event which was a fantastic opportunity to meet Princess Ann and the Saudi Arabian Ambassador as well as many other interesting people. • The Pupil Leadership main aim is to bring the school together and raise more money for the school. • Merits system: options on what would be best going forward are still getting discussed. 	
3.	Head Teacher Report	FR

- Happy New Year.
- Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Training has since taken place building on previous years.
- BGE Winter Disco (possibly move to Halloween) and Senior Ceilidh
- Christmas Concert
- Important one for us. New 3-year improvement plan 2024-2027.
- Attendance marketing campaign / forum. Local push on this issue. Mr Duncan presenting on it this evening from a Perth Grammar context.
- Uniform - SLT spot checks each day - out with spot checks staff are encouraged to refer any uniform concerns using the usual mechanisms under our Relationships for Respect policy. Headteacher reiterated importance of support from families with this matter as it shouldn't be something we need to resource if we're all pulling in the same direction.
- During HT Focus Group meetings last term, I met with S1 to do a school vision and values check. Almost all pupils reported settling in well and were clear on the importance of 'living our values'.
- SQA Assemblies and Prelims underway.
- Staffing: Replacement in Drama but there will be a 3-4 week gap for new member of staff to join us.
- Sean Dougall Motivation Commitment & Resilience (MCR) Pathways Coordinator based with our Partner Agency Team (Services for Young People and DYW) has started.
- Perth Grammar commended locally by our Service Manager for our low staff absence rates. We have held a stable staffing picture for a considerable amount of time now. Lots of reasons for this - consistency and due diligence.

- 15 January The Courier reported a review of the Secondary Learning Estate.
- Following the approval of the committee report "Learning Estate" at Perth and Kinross Council on 22 January 2024, a briefing note has been shared with staff and Parent Council Chair.

If you have any questions or queries regarding this communication, please contact ecsresources@pkc.gov.uk.

The report recommends that community engagement is undertaken, which will seek the views of stakeholders and communities, regarding the vision and future of the secondary learning estate across secondary schools in Perth City. Analysis of roll projections. Consider secondary catchments. What are the viable options that could be explored further? Undertake engagement with stakeholders which will include pupils, parents, staff, communities, and other partners as appropriate.

This engagement exercise will allow key stakeholders including, pupils, parents, staff, parent councils, members of the

community building users and Council partners the opportunity to give their views on their experiences, vision, and future of secondary learning in Perth City.

Feedback received from this exercise will provide valuable information to the Council on whether further proposals are required to be considered.

School communities in relation to the following schools will be included in the engagement exercise;

Perth High School
 Perth Academy
 Perth Grammar School
 Bertha Park High School and Associated Primary Schools

A strategic working group will be formed to set out the engagement approach. Once an engagement approach has been developed further communication will be issued to advise of next steps.

Further information and timescales

It should be noted that following the conclusion of the community engagement exercise, it does not mean that proposals will be considered, developed, or taken forward for any of the school communities involved.

No decisions for the future of the Secondary Learning Estate have been made or are preferred.

This exercise is an opportunity for the Council to understand the views of school users and wider communities.

There is no specific timescale set out for the community engagement, however once the Strategic Working Group have developed the engagement approach a further communication around timescales will be confirmed.

4.	<p>Health & Wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Cheryl the new PTC for Health & Wellbeing who joined the school in August. • Cheryl explained Health & Wellbeing is all about having a good balance between mental, physical and social states and having this community feeling. • Currently Cheryl is focusing on questionnaires to gather feedback from the whole school community to help formulate an improvement plan. • Cheryl is looking to create a staff and pupil working group and also inviting parents to these focus groups. • House leaders in S1 to S6 would lead weekly forums and have an input on what they would like to discuss. • Junior and Senior house captains would be up for leadership roles to try and get kids inspired. House captains would take more of a lead, letting younger people see what they can achieve. There will be an interview process to decide who will become house captains. 	CM
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For now, Cheryl would like to create "stress buster sessions" for staff and pupils. Sessions like Yoga for example to destress everyone. • New Netball uniforms are needed in 3 different sizes. The parent council will discuss further and see how they can contribute towards it but Cheryl said she would be prepared to enter events to raise money as well. 	
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5.	<p>Attendance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff attendance is high on the agenda. • There is a big focus on attendance right now as poor attendance can lead to poor outcome, poor employment and poor relationships. • Post Covid – attendance took a slip. Lower attendance means an increase in emotional difficulties, change in routines and lack of resilience. Many young people have struggled to get back into schools especially if they had poor attendance prior to Covid. • Parents taking family holidays out with the school holidays can also have a rippling effect. It was noted that unfortunately, holidays are cheaper when it is not the school holidays and this has a big factor on taking kids out of school as well. • Greg underlined that "Everyday does matter" • There is still work to be done so the school can capture young people views. Strategies and interventions are getting looked at to entice young people to attend. • Home Communication – There has been a change in group calls. Before a message was sent to the main contact but now the message goes to everyone that has parental rights which has the potential to increase parental output in the future. • New policy launching in 3 weeks time. 	GD
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7.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have had a very busy term last term so it is a little bit more quiet right now. • There is still £2912 in the bank account. It was noted that the PKC Budget money was included in the amount. • Netball T-shirts were a success and Parent Council looking to contribute to new uniforms as well. 	JR
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8.	AOB & date of next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="245 174 911 208">• Date of next meeting – 12th March 2024 6:30pm	ALL
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