



Perth Grammar School Parent Council

Minutes

Meeting: Tuesday 10th September 2024, 6.30pm.

Attending: Janice Napier, Jenny Robertson, Fiona Robertson, Roy McIntosh, Alexandra McQueen, David Sinclair, Cllr Chris Ahern, Cllr Andrew Parrott, Alexandra McQueen, Anna Jellye, Sam Lewis, Kevin McMahon, Davis Sinclair, Louise Awburn, Maddison Moore (PLT)

Apologies: Anna Brown (PLT)

1.	Welcome and apologies	JN
2.	S1 Transition Information	KM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin presented and overview on P7-S1 Transitions. He confirmed that transitions include many forms such as curricular, pastoral, wellbeing and that when planning transitions they take everything into consideration. • Transition Framework includes: Stage 1 – Universal Stage 2 – Additional Stage 3 – Enhanced Stage 4 - Intensive • PGS is in partnership with Navigate. Navigate provides an individual package of additional support and education for young people. More information can be found on PKC website. • Kevin confirmed a lot of planning goes into transitions. This starts by meeting teachers in January to get a better understanding of what each child needs and sharing this information with the support team. • Attendance for transitions was very good, the highest attending year group, pupils are feeling settled and everyone is still pushing for pupils to come in wearing school uniform so they feel part of a team. • We have had the DYW day for S1's - Developing the Young Workforce aims to prepare learners for their future pathways and the transition into the world of work. This was very well received by the pupils who had lots of very good ideas. • Freshers Night is coming up on 19th September which is a continuation of transition and everyone hopes this will be a great event with many families attending. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellbeing – there is a survey being prepared involving 20 families. They also have the Glasgow Motivation and Wellbeing Profile (GMWP) which is a 20 item questionnaire that explores motivation and sense of wellbeing in the learning context. It elicits children and young people’s views of themselves and their emotions; it gives them an opportunity to reflect on their feelings and current experiences and encourages them to consider how they can increase their own determination, motivation and sense of wellbeing. • A discussion took place around the impact from Covid. Kevin is speaking to other schools and colleagues and feels that more support has been provided and the transition program is evolving. 	
3.	Pupil Leadership Team	MM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Pupil Leadership Team – Maddison Moore and Anna Brown were appointed. • Maddison explained that since the term started they have been meeting every Tuesday Lunch to talk about what they would like to organize and achieve this year. Maddison also confirmed they were delighted with the House Captains who are amazing. • House Points – Main focus right now. A Quiz based on The Chase has been organised during Tutor Time Classes. 2 rounds over 2 weeks with 2 quizzes which are being promoted and well received by the pupils. Winners will go against Ms Robertson! • PLT have been talking to Mr Reid regarding the House Point Collection Boxes which right now are locked away. The plan is to take them out and be visible to pupils so they keep the momentum going. • Prefect Rotas – Rotas have been put in place so all S5 and S6 are involved and the tasks are well divided which allows less pressure on certain pupils. A group on Teams has been created so everyone knows exactly what needs to be done. Consequences are being discussed at the moment if pupils are not doing their tasks. • A Year Book Group, a Charity Fundraising Group and a Prom Group have been selected. So far the start of the year has gone very well and everything is falling into place. • Next term – Keep planning for events such as Winter Ceilidh 	

4.	<p>Attainment & Achievement Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sam gave a presentation on SQA Results, explaining that the school celebrates everyone in every way they can and that the figures are only a benchmark to look at over the previous years. S4 5@3 – 93% - no exam S4 5@4 – 68% - no exam S4 5@5 – 30% - exam Data is still coming in so figures may not be totally accurate yet but it what we see is that pupils seem to be doing a lot better without the exams. NPA – National Progression Awards is internally assessed and ongoing throughout the year. This method is more modernised way of assessing and is good for youngsters who are anxious and pupils who are doing well in classes but not on exam day. Different paths for different pupil and it is what is right for the individual. Although it has come to light that teachers are more ambitious than pupils. Enriched and Outreached programs are programs PGS are involved in to ensure all pupils have the support they need if they can not fully attend school for various reasons. The Enriched Program is where pupil come in school but attend a smaller group setting. The Outreached Program is when the pupil can not come into school so the classes are held in North Muirton Centre. 	SL
5.	<p>Travel Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiona mentioned PGS need to look into having a travel plan but in the absence of Scott Jewell we will need to discuss this another time. 	FR
6.	<p>Head Teacher Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome to session 2024-25. Parent Council Chair event will be held in due course (rescheduled to be confirmed). HT plans to accompany. HT Focus Groups - S3 feedback suggested S1 assembly on who is who. Standards and Quality Report 2023-24 published. Inservice Days – ongoing focus themes of our Learning 360 (Learning, Teaching and Assessment) and Ambition Agenda (Raising Attainment and Achievement) - Nurturing Schools Programme will provide clear path to health and wellbeing improvements including key features, such as resilience, over the next three years. Role of HT to Parent Council is to advise. Parent Council can play an active role in ongoing school improvement and HT warmly encourages it to do so for those new to, or thinking of joining, the group. 	FR

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S1 StepUp with Enterprise event 6 September 2024. Business Partners - Developing Young Workforce. • Library received Gold Reading School award. • Tanzania photo/video reunion with The Vine Trust. • Connected and Collaborative Systems Leadership Submission re: summative inspection levels. <p>Guidance on Mobile Phones in Scotland's Schools (www.gov.scot) Guidance on Mobile Phones in Scotland's Schools Update 2024. Perth Grammar deems its current policy appropriate however, once Education & Learning, Perth & Kinross Council, have produced local guidance we'll use that as an opportunity to refresh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HT had attended AI in education conference. We have already had some inputs on this with the staff team and will consider our practice in school alongside our young people. This is not a development that replaces us but is a reason as to why human intelligence is arguably more important than ever. Parent Council incoming / outgoing chairs had explored CoPilot with HT. <p>Improving relationships and behaviour in schools: ensuring safe and consistent environments for all (www.gov.scot) Improving relationships and behaviour in schools: ensuring safe and consistent environments for all has also been published. Standards and consistency are hugely important and the school needs support from parents e.g. ensure child is dressed for school leaving in the morning, consider reasons for any non-attendance, promote the value of education etc. Education & Learning had launched a local drive on why attendance matters and the support available where necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33 Period Week / Asymmetric (implementation 2025/6). Budget saving elected members agreed to (£500k). • Staffing: David Sinclair - Promoted to PTG (Almond). Nicola Marshall Acting PTG HWB / Yvonne Dearden back from maternity leave. Shannon Johnstone, Teacher of Computing and Lauren McIntyre, Teacher of Art go on maternity from October Computing advertised multiple times. Timetable can be managed internally. Art post will go to advert. English vacancy - hoping to appoint this week. Eilidh Gillies - Attendance and Family Engagement Officer. Toni Day - Pupil Intervention Officer has left. The above post along with revised role is being considered as school context evolves. Laura Mitchell PCWO starts Monday. Sara Birrell Probationer in HE. • Property - Theatre now out of commission for installation of fire alarm which requires scaffolding. 	
7.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The Perth Decides" fund – This money was applied for by the school through the Parent Council and the school 	JR

	<p>received £1500. With PGS having spent £1265, the remaining £235 belongs to the school to spend as outlined by the funding application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There true total of PGS Parent Council account is £1897.46. • The Parent Council can help PLT or the school if funds are needed and we are opened to suggestions. 	
8.	<p>AOB & date of next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Andrew Parrott as Deputy Provost of Perth & Kinross, attended Prizes giving in Primary Schools as part of Sports events and was delighted to see how fantastic the team of school staff and teachers were. The atmosphere is just amazing during sports events. • Cllr Andrew Parrott wanted to remind everyone about The Common Good Funds which funds projects that provide community benefit for the people (including individual or group of people) who live in the former burgh served by relevant Common Good Fund Committee. More information along with the application form can be found on PKC website. • Anna Jellye is a member of RASAC (Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre). Anna wanted to know if RASAC could come as a Guest Speaker to do a presentation on how RASAC can support parents and how they can educate youngsters on sex extortion, pornography and many other topics with a variety of information. David Sinclair said that RASAC is coming to PGS at the end of January. https://www.rasacpk.org.uk/about-rasac-pk/ • Cllr Chris Ahern wanted to highlight that today is World Suicide Prevention Day and the importance of raising awareness. Chris also talked about the partnership with The Lighthouse for Perth which is a local non-profit service offering crisis support for anyone aged 12+ who is at risk of self-harm or suicide. https://lighthouseforperth.org/ • David Sinclair talked about Guidance as the new appointed PTG. He is looking into the environment, relationships and focus on what has been done previously. He is speaking to communities, parents and pupils to gain better knowledge. He is also sharing good practice that is happening in our school. • Date of next meeting – 12th November 2024 6:30pm 	ALL