



Perth Grammar School Parent Council

Minutes

Meeting: Wednesday 17th September 2025, 6.30pm.

Attending: Fiona Robertson, Jenny Robertson, Alexandra McQueen, Louise Awburn, Fiona Reed, Allison Millar, Hannah Millar, Kasia Thextom, Anna Mucha, Joshua Hunter, David Sinclair, Corrie Simon, Sam Lewis, Martin Reid.

Apologies: Roy McIntosh, Cllr Andrew Parrott, Cllr Chris Ahern,

1.	Welcome and apologies	JR
2.	Pupil Leadership Team	Hannah Millar & Joshua Hunter
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All PLT places have now been filled. • PLT first meeting was held on Monday. They each analyzed each other's opinions and thoughts about what could be achieved for each term so that they are all on the same page. • Talks ongoing regarding the Winter Ceilidh and how to improve on last year very successful game "The Chase". The Pupil Leadership Team's aim is to make every year feel like a fresh start with new ideas which has had a lot of enthusiasm so far and is looking very promising. • Charity Work – The Shoe Box Appeal – Getting started on this straight way so hopefully the school will have every item they need for each box. Each year group will be getting a specific items list to ensure we can send as many boxes out as we can and we are not missing any items. Last year, we had incomplete boxes which unfortunately did not get sent out which was a shame. • Something new happening this year – S6 & S1 buddying. S1 are paired with S6 and will be able to have weekly chats and receive help from their peers. It is also a good way of finding out if there are any issues arising and S1 can feel more at ease talking to S6's instead of their teachers since it has an informal setting. • Peers Mediation Scotland Meeting – Joshua attended this meeting alongside other pupils. Mediation helps with skills development and may also take the stress out of school staff. The idea is not to create a solution but instead give the tools for the person to do so themselves and commit. Around 95% of issues get resolved through mediation. • Jenny explained to the new Team Leaders that the Parent Council has a pot of money which can go towards events or school needs. To be able to receive 	

	funds, a proposal simply needs to be sent to the Parent Council for consideration.	
3.	Headteacher Report	FR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Staff Ainsley Scullion - Teacher of Social Studies and Business (mat cover) Iva Atanasova - Probationer of Computing Sonja McGinnes - Teacher of Art Pamela Devine - Teacher of Modern Languages 1 Year Cameron Ledwidge - Teacher of PE 1 Year Georgian Adams - Probationer of PE James Morrison - Probationer of HE Holly Robinson - Teacher of ISP Heather Marr - Teacher of ISP Mirren Galbraith - Business Assistant Rachel Rylance - Business Assistant • Staffing Changes Shannon Johnston - Acting PT Business & Computing Caitlin Coia - Formerly Beveridge Abby Green - Acting PT Learner Support, return to Science in October Nicola Devenny - Moved to ISP from Learner Support Jonathan Haine - Moved to Learner Support from ISP David Williams - Moved to Learner Support from ISP Zoe Hay - Covering maternity cover as PCWO • Summer Upgrades - During the summer holidays the multi-story corridors were fully painted, seven classrooms on the 2nd floor were painted and carpeted along with classroom painting in Connections. • Theatre works - Good progress is being made to the Theatre AV room and roof. During the summer there was further works identified and the Theatre roof is being re insulated and covered. When the Theatre re opens it will include a fully functional AV room and a full re-rig of lighting. These works should all be completed by the end of October however we have planned for them to continue until Christmas in case of weather delays. Scaffolding will remain on site until the end of the project. • Staff Toilets 1st floor - These works are ongoing and are aiming to be completed by the start of term 2. • The doors into Technologies will become restricted access during period times. These are being installed to improve safety in the Technologies workshops. We are aiming to be completed by the start of term 2. • 152 S1s joined Perth Grammar at the start of the session. • Challenges faced by school naturally reflect those of society. Our values are deliverable when everyone 	

takes responsibility, and we work well together. Parents asked to be respectful at all times and mindful of context.

- Locality working.
- Good practice visit with Drumchapel High School.
- Strathallan Partnership shared School Leaders Scotland and Scottish Council of Independent Schools.
- Seastory - Parent Council Chair had delivered an input on our Project Based Learning about flooding this afternoon as a representative of SEPA. A helpful example of Parent Council being here to support school improvement and from a Developing Young Workforce / Skills development perspective.

4. Treasurer's Report

- Jenny started by explaining that as a Parent Council we have to report our spending and what we have done the past year. Her report will be available to view on the school website shortly.
- Roy, our chair, who couldn't join us today has prepared his report for the AGM and will also be available on the school website.
- Jenny stated there is £2789.41 showing in the bank account.
- The agenda for the meetings are set by the Parent Council and throughout the years so many topics have been discussed with guests also invited. If parents would like to discuss anything, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate.

JR

5.	<p>Improvement & Change Group (ICG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrie started by explaining that under ICG there are many different groups such as Skills, Nurture and Teaching. Corrie looks after Recognising & Celebrating Achievement. • The reason behind these groups is that we wanted to find out all about the wonderful things people are doing. • One Stop Shop with Form – this is where pupils, parents can nominate a pupil by simply filling out a form. • So far there has been 18 responses. The responses are collected and sent to Corrie who then shares this information with the Houses, teachers etc... Not everyone wants to be celebrated on social media or in school so there is an option so you can decide how it is shared. • New things to implement – activity tracking, points allocation, team points, recognition, incentives and foster teamwork & competitions. • The aim is to have Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. Staff will then add the points to the Houses. • There has been a positive change with House Times happening first thing in the morning. 	CS

6.	<p>SQA Results Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sam presented the results on PowerPoint: Actual – 5@3 (basic expectation from the government)– 87%, 5@4 – 67%, 5@5 – 34% S5 1@6 – 51%, 3@6 – 29%, 5@6 – 15% S6 1@7 – 16% These results show a healthy picture going forward bearing in mind that some of our pupils do decide to leave school earlier and focus on specific trades/ subjects. • MPA – Coursework that is marked throughout the year. This takes the stress off the final exam for many pupils and with the MPA you can still achieve a Level 5 and are also available at Level 6. MPA's are accepted in some universities but not all of them. 	SL
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These statistics do not matter more than our pupil. Everybody works at different pace, and some may take longer but they will get there. • The school is working hard towards different pathways so that we have something to offer to everyone. • Biggest challenge – Right now our biggest challenge is our pupils who do not attend classes or able to come to school grounds. We do have our InReach and OutReach programs. • Teachers are working extremely hard and are all looking into our attainments and improvements. 	
7.	<p>Mobile Phone Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin started by apologising as he unfortunately never had the time to get back to the Parent Council regarding questions raised at the last meeting. • Overview of questionnaire: Good responses – 24% P7 – 20% S1 – 27% S2 – 23% S3 – 21% S4 – 25% S5 – 24% • Qualificative Insights from comments were: support for phone bans, concerns on wellbeing, need for consistent enforcement, balanced policy views (parents show willingness to support the policy). • Policy implications and recommendations were: restricting phone use, secure storage solution, policy exception and support, digital literacy and wellbeing education. • We are working within the school means and we are hopeful we will be able to provide secured boxes in each classroom towards the end of October. • School is aware there are medical conditions and language barriers that need to be taken into account, so the policy is not all black and white. • Josh added that he went from having his phone all the time to not having at all in the Cadets and it was a bit of a shock to be without it but also saw the benefits. He also told us about Nomophobia which needed to be tackled. Nomophobia is the irrational fear or anxiety of being without a mobile phone or being unable to use it, often stemming from a dependency on the device. 	MR
8.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiona wanted to discuss the current survey for school inspection which is a “big one”. It is important for us all to understand school inspection, there is no opportunity to amend the “satisfactory” status at the moment. Please have a look at the survey. 	ALL

	<p>https://consult.gov.scot/education-scotland/school inspections are changing/supporting documents/consultation-paper-easy-read-pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jenny thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight. She hopes new parents now have a better understanding about what the parent council does and deals with and hopes to see many more parents attending in the future. 	
9.	Date of next meeting – Wednesday 19th November 2025 @ 6:30pm	ALL
10.	AGM – Wednesday 1st October 2025 @7pm on TEAMS	PC Members