

# Gleniffer High School Parent Council



**Subject:** General Parent Council Meeting No.554

**Minutes Taken By:** Margaret McCartney

**Date:** 04/09/17 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm

**Date Issued:** 20/09/17

**Venue:** Gleniffer High School

**File Ref:**

**Present:**

**Apologies:**

Lesley Binning  
Alastair McGhee  
Margaret McCartney

LBi  
AMcG  
MMcC

Chairperson/Parent Member  
Vice-Chair/Parent Member  
Secretary/Parent Member

Councillor McCartin

EMcC

Local Councillor

Iain McKenzie  
George Walker  
Caroline Young  
Carolann Davidson  
Lesley Gibson  
Karen Anderson  
Sandra O'Hare  
Lorraine Carslaw  
Georgina Kent  
Fiona Fairbrother  
Louise Green  
Jackie Kydd  
Dorothy McCann

IM  
GW  
CY  
CD  
LG  
KA  
SOH  
LCa  
GK  
FF  
LG  
JK  
DM

Parent Member  
Parent Member  
Parent Member  
Parent Member  
Parent Member  
Parent Member  
Parent Member  
Parent Member  
Parent Member  
Parent member  
Parent member  
Parent member  
Parent Member

Stuart Sinclair  
Kevin Jose  
John Phillips  
JulieAnn Butler

SS  
KJ  
JP  
JB

Co-op Parent Member  
Co-op Parent Member  
Co-op Parent Member  
Co-op Parent Member

Lisa Chalmers  
Nicola Crawford  
Margie Walker

LC  
NC  
MW

Head Teacher  
Teacher  
Teacher

Robbie Campbell  
Ciara Phillips

RC  
CP

Head Boy  
Head Girl

**Distribution List:**

All of the above plus:

Peter Macleod

Director of Children's Services

Alison Warnock

Acting Head Teacher, Bushes Primary School

Steven Quinn

Assistant Director (Education)

Hilary Paterson

Head Teacher, Heriot Primary School

Stephen Burns

Councillor, Renfrewshire Council

Graeme MacLean

Head Teacher, Langcraigs Primary School

Marie McGurk

Councillor, Renfrewshire Council

Claire MacGregor Duncan

Head Teacher, Lochfield Primary School

Lorraine Cameron

Councillor, Renfrewshire Council

Marie-Claire Temple

Head Teacher, Brediland Primary School

Eddie Devine

Councillor, Renfrewshire Council

Paul Mack

Councillor, Renfrewshire Council

Kevin Montgomery

Councillor, Renfrewshire Council

## **1. Welcome and Introductions**

See AGM Minutes

## **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received as above – Councillor McCartin LB will send an e-mail to the new councillors.

## **3. Comments/Approval of previous Minutes –**

Gillian Sinclair was at the meeting not Stuart Sinclair. With this amendment the minutes were

Proposed by: George Walker

Seconded; Iain McKenzie

## **4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

None that are not already on agenda

## **5. Roles and Responsibilities of PC Members**

Emma Maley – PC Minutes onto Website

Chair – point of contact for parents and staff

Vice Chair – stand in for Chair when necessary

Secretary – take and prepare minutes – sent to LB/AMcG/LC to check no glaring errors and then send out to distribution list. They will then be put on Twitter and Facebook page

LB then asked if anyone on the PC can anyone do anything for the school/PC.e.g. help with social media, coaching etc... If anyone can please contact LB

## **6. PC Liaison Meetings**

Next meeting will be next Tuesday at 7 pm in the Marriage Suite of Renfrewshire Council. If anyone wants to attend LB will wait outside for you. The meetings will take place in September/December/April but LB will e-mail out dates and info as appropriate.

## **7. School Holiday Consultation**

School Holiday consultation was discussed and Option A was agreed upon.

## **8. Teachers' Report**

- Fire Drill
- S1 settling in well
- National Maths week – w/c 11 September - target S1 – lot on for full week – different activity every day in maths. This is to be a surprise for the pupils so not to discuss with children. On Friday there will be 2 hours of activity. The information will be put out tomorrow to staff. No maths homework but competitions throughout the week etc. Tweet on lecture at UWS – Professor Adam McBride from Strathclyde on the importance of maths. More positive image for maths, Engineering uptake etc. Dozen senior volunteers – on twitter
- Senior Phase information evening – 6 September – text today not a lot of info. Intro to NQ courses and apprenticeships etc. – Engineering, Maths department inputs etc. S4 and then S5/6. Pupils and parents
- 20 'divas' back from NY where they had been stuck – had to find accommodation – GK pointed out that the staff – especially NC – had done a great job and wanted to pass on the thanks from the parents for going the extra mile.

## 9. Head Teacher's Report

- Welcome Margie Walker and Nicola Crawford as staff volunteers for the session.
- Congratulations to Robbie Campbell and Ciara Phillips in their role of Head Boy and Head Girl.
- There were late changes to staffing at the end of the session.
- We have secured two new English teachers Mr Gareth Baynham and Ms Hazel Keay who will be starting with us very soon.
- Ms Laura Thomson has been appointed on a permanent basis to Gleniffer High, following the loss of Mr Parsons from mathematics.
- Mr James Hutchison, Miss Carly Dalgleish and Mr Bertrand Essah have joined the Humanities faculty.
- Mr Tollan has been allocated full-time to one school and will sadly be leaving the PE department in the next couple of weeks. A suitable replacement is currently being sought.
- Miss Laura Robb has joined the Science faculty as Teacher of Chemistry.
- Mr Graeme Thompson has joined the Business and Computing faculty as Teacher of Business and ICT.
- Mr Brian Homan has joined the HFT department however there is still a slight shortage in pointage. We have managed to secure another HFT teacher 2 days per week but because of the shortage will still need to rotate the cookery of some classes. There has been a parental concern regarding practical input in the BGE, however I have responded and am confident the department are doing all they can just now.
- Miss Sarah Boyd has joined the Art department.
- A vacancy has arisen for a 0.8 Teacher of Music, which should be advertised very soon and we will also be looking to make a permanent appointment to PT Physical Education, following Mr Menzies appointment as substantive DHT Johnstone High School.
- The start of the session has been very busy. Since returning, we have appointed our Badge Holders, following competitive interview, and House Captain interviews start this week.
- The Young Enterprise group are working to pull together their business idea of selling House scarves to help promote house identity around the school. I heard an excellent presentation from them about their business and marketing plan and committed to giving £50 to support their start-up costs.
- Tomorrow is the launch of YPI with S3 pupils, followed by the Charity Fayre in the afternoon. This will allow young people to connect with local groups and start building the relationships with them.
- A Senior Phase Information Evening takes place on 6th September, giving pupils and parents the opportunity to learn about SQA qualifications, especially since there are changes, hear from subject specialists and employability information including Modern Apprenticeships and SDS inputs. The UCAS information evening is planned for 20th September, the day after the Higher Education convention. Last count there were over 70 pupils signed up to attend.
- Week beginning 11th September is Maths Week Scotland so our mathematics department are planning a week of activities to highlight the importance of maths and links to everyday life with S1 pupils.
- SQA Analysis meetings with individual departments start on 18th September. This year Pupil Support and Pastoral Support colleagues will also be involved in sharing their contributions to improving outcomes for learners.
- Bake sale organised by PTA is taking place 21st September – all donations of baking welcome. No nuts please!
- SQA Presentation
- Two primary staff have been appointed to work as transition teachers with Gleniffer High and the Cluster primaries. Learners in S1 and S2 with identified issues in Literacy and/or Numeracy are now being targeted by these staff for additional support. This will involve extraction from classes to work in a small group setting on improving reading and numeracy. These pupils will be closely tracked throughout the session and we expect to see an improvement in their ability to access subjects across the curriculum as well as their own confidence and wellbeing.

- Show My Homework is a software package which we have purchased and allows us to communicate directly with parents, so that they know what has been issued and the deadlines which have been set. Parents will receive a personalised letter with an access code which will allow them to access an app on their smartphone or tablet as well as information on how to access the resource via a web address. Steps are being taken to identify which pupils/families won't have access to this resource so that we can provide support in school.
- Two Inclusion Officers have been appointed to work closely with Pastoral Support. One is funded by the Scottish Attainment Challenge and another by Pupil Equity Funding.
- An additional set of Classroom in a Box has been sourced to allow pupils greater access to technology in classes across the school.
- The school improvement plan has been reviewed at authority level. There will be some minor changes to show how it links to the Children's Services Plan and we will be working on this over the next couple of weeks.

## **10. Head Girl/Head Boy Report**

Hear from them at next meeting

## **11. Date of Next Meetings**

- 2 October – primary meeting at Lancraigs for LC that night
- 30 October
- 4 December
- 8 January
- 5 February
- 5 March
- 16 April
- 4 June

## **12. AOB –**

- Buses – further problems with buses have been raised. LC said there are road works near the school which would account for today's issue. Bus passes will now be required to be shown when getting on to the buses and LC will be on hand to check. There was a discussion re the buses, the need for passes and the distance required to be eligible for these passes. It will be the end of September for decisions re privilege passes. There was also a discussion about how important it is to lodge complaints if there are any so that an accurate picture of the problems can be made.
- Blazers – currently only S6 pupils in Gleniffer wear blazers but Castlehead pupils are all now wearing blazers and people would like it earlier in Gleniffer. LC said they would maybe look at this for next year.
- Tour of the school – anyone who would like a tour one morning to see school working which gives good idea of what it is like when it is fully operational. LC will get back with a date and LB will send it out and people should sign up for this.

