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Gleniffer High School Parent Council AGM

Subject: Parent Council Meeting (First Short Meeting of Session 2024-25)

Date: 2nd September 2024 immediately following AGM.

Minutes taken by: Susan Gray

Venue: Gleniffer High School

Date Issued: * 2024

Present:

PRESENT		APOLOGIES	
Susan Gray (SG)	Secretary	Julie Connell (JC)	Chairperson
Vicky Colquhoun (VC)	Parent Member	David Morrison (DM)	Vice Chairperson
Lisa Watt (LW)	Parent Member	Tracey Hawes	Parent Member
Nicola West (NW)	Parent Member	Julie McCulloch (JM)	Parent Member
Danielle Toogood	New Parent Member	Suzanne Baxter (SB)	Parent Member
Emma Moore	New Parent Member	Pauline Erskine	Parent Member
		Carol McCluskey	Parent Member
		Katrina Gelston (KG)	Parent Member
		Roxanne Costello	New Parent Member
		Lyndsay McLaughlin	New Parent Member
		ABSENT	
		Archie Speirs (AS)	Parent Member
		Louise Muir	Parent Member
Lisa Chalmers (HT)	Head Teacher	Kenneth Fearnie	Prospective Member
		Samantha Jones	Prospective Member
Events Class Members		Zoe Smith	Prospective Member
Isla Scott	Student	Pauline Shields	Prospective Member
Olivia Milton	Student	Cherine Divers	Prospective Member
Lauren Ferguson	Student	Pamela Anderson	Prospective Member
Romey Aitken	Student	Omolegho Sedenu Ayuba	Prospective Member
Hayley Johnston	Student	Kirsty Lafferty	Prospective Member
		Lorna McLaren	Prospective Member*
		Jenni Harrison	Prospective Member*

*Individuals only contacted after 5pm on date of AGM

1 Welcome & Apologies

SG opened the meeting and welcomed all.

2. Minutes

Not applicable – Minutes of last PC Meeting in June 2024 were approved during the preceding AGM.

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3. Headteacher's Report

Staffing

LC advised that a number of new staff have joined GHS at the start of term in English, Music and Humanities. At the end of last session, Miss Bowie was successful in securing a permanent PT Pastoral position in Kilmarnock Academy. All agreeing Miss Bowie will be very much missed having spent 14 years in Gleniffer High School. Miss Anderson also resigned her position, deciding to follow an alternative pathway while also studying for a Masters. LC and all present wished her well.

LC advising this has resulted in recruitment issues at the start of the school year and that they had interviewed today for a temporary PT Pastoral for Glen House. LC advising this cannot be made permanent as this is still Mrs Denny's post while she is on secondment. The successful candidate was Mrs Williams who will take up post almost immediately.

LC advising that Mrs Hall was leaving us at the summer as she is relocating to Perth, however kindly offered to stay on and cover what was Miss Anderson's timetable. There are still changes occurring in the English department and LC advised that they hope to have this settled soon.

LC advising the session has begun with a teacher short in Technical and that someone is needed to cover Mrs Niven's maternity leave – there was someone appointed in May to take on this role however they secured a permanent position in the last week of term elsewhere unfortunately and despite advertising several times LC cannot get one candidate for interview. LC advising this is going to have a negative impact on the pupils who have chosen to study in Technical and so the management team they will be reviewing the curriculum offer and options as a result in the coming weeks.

LC advising also that they have two staff off on long-term sick leave but have managed to cover this with supply for the time being.

School Review

LC advising that on Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th September, representatives of Renfrewshire Council will be in school to support GHS' self-evaluation of the school's performance. This will involve the representatives visiting several classes over the two days to look at the quality of learning and teaching and also meeting with groups of young people and staff. A final report will be produced and will help inform next steps. LC welcomed this review as a part of the ongoing Quality Improvement processes and to support her and the management team prior to any upcoming Education Scotland Inspection. A link was text to parents/carers for completion by today to gather their views.

School Prioritise for Session 2024-25

LC presented to the PC on the above. A copy of the slides from the presentation are provided with these Minutes.

School Meals Process

LC explaining that ParentPay was brought in across Renfrewshire Council to support a cashless system for parents/carers and pupils but in the last year, significant debt was built up which had to be covered from the school budget and which has a knock-on effect on resourcing in the school. LC explaining that as a parent, she has tried to set up alerts so that it is flagged when money is being spent and so an eye is kept on the balance but LC has not been able to make this work. LC is rightly concerned about the impact on families where £5 of debt (recently increased to £7) can be spent per day regardless of what balance is in the account.

LC advising that In discussion with Amey (who operate the canteen) and the GHS clerical team, it was decided to set up their own alerts to avoid parents and carers finding themselves in a debt recovery process. LC explaining that the school's process now involves young people reporting to the office to be given a slip of paper to the

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canteen staff so they will receive their lunch with the school recording the name at the office and sending the text home later that day to say there has been a spend on the account with insufficient funds. LC emphasising that no child should ever be refused a lunch but that it had come to her attention on Friday that there was an incident involving a young person who felt embarrassed by the way she was spoken to by canteen staff. LC advising that she has raised this with Amey.

4. AOCB

The Events Class were present at the meeting and presented their plans for two events this session, one being a Fun Day to be held on 10th October 2024 which will be the same day as the Foodbank collection. They will have charge an entry fee of £5 and charge for the various stalls such as 'guess the sweeties in the jar'; photo prop stall; inflatables; and a food truck.

The second event will be 'Glenny's Got Talent' which they intend to hold on 17th December. They have carried out market research amongst the students and believe this will be a popular event with them also running a tuck shop to raise funds. The students explained to the Parent Council the various considerations and logistics they need to consider in organising the events.

SG thanked the Events Class for coming along and presenting their work in progress.

5. Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be 7th October 2024 at 7pm.

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