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**Gleniffer High School
Parent Council**

Subject: Parent Council Meeting

Date: 13th January 2025 7.00pm

Minutes taken by: Susan Gray

Venue: Gleniffer High School

Date Issued: 9th February 2025

Present:

PRESENT		APOLOGIES	
Susan Gray (SG)	Secretary	Julie Connell (JC)	Chairperson
Vicky Colquhoun (VC)	PTA Representative	Suzanne Baxter (SB)	Parent Member
Nicola West (NW)	Parent Member	Danielle Toogood (DT)	Parent Member
Tracey Hawes (TH)	Parent Member	Lisa Watt (LW)	Parent Member
Lyndsay McLaughlin (LM)	Parent Member		
Emma Moore (EM)	Parent Member		
Jenni Harrison (JH)	Parent Member		
Julie McCulloch (JM)	Parent Member		
Archie Speirs	Parent Member		
Lisa Chalmers (HT)	Head Teacher		
Debbie Martin (DHT)	Depute Head Teacher	ABSENT	
		Stuart Galbraith (SG)	Parent Member
Alexandra Hollywood	Student Leader	Katrina Gelston	Parent Member
Layla Christie	Student Leader		

1. Welcome & Apologies

JC opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. SG advised of apologies received.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the last PC Meeting held 9th December 2024 were approved.

3. Head Teacher's report

Staffing

Miss Mahon has started in Technical at the beginning of the new term. LC is delighted to have secured a permanent member of staff.

Miss Arnold left Art after securing a permanent position in Edinburgh City Council, and LC and all at GHS wish her well.

LC explained that they have been hit quite hard before and after Christmas with flu and stomach bugs amongst staff. On some days they had to collapse classes into the social area which they try and avoid as much as possible but it is not always avoidable.

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LC advised that National 5 prelims are up and running with pupils taking the experience seriously. There is a team of invigilators supporting the exams, including additional assessment arrangements.

Future events

S3 are starting on their YPI project through PSE and there was an assembly to launch the programme last week and a charities fayre being held in the coming week. YPI involves young people working in teams to learn about philanthropy and local charities. They will research and present to their classes before our school finals in March. The winning team will win £3000 for their chosen charity.

Calendar dates

S3 Pupil Progress Evening is Tues 21st January. Currently the uptake for appointments is sitting at 53%. LC advised they will be targeting families with phone calls to make more appointments over the next week. S2 Pupil Progress Evening is 6th February.

S4 Tracking deadline, following the N5 prelims is this coming Friday. S5/6 Tracking deadline is 7th February. LC plans to bring to a future meeting thoughts on assessment in Senior Phase and impact of prelims.

4. Student Leaders

Consortium Arrangements

Student leaders Alexandra Hollywood and Layla Christie fed back to the Parent Council the mechanics of the consortium arrangement and some of the pros and cons encountered by them. AH explained that she attends St Andrews High School for her Advanced Higher Physics course with the consortium arrangements allowing her the opportunity to study the AH which is not on offer at GHS however the cons are that by the time the new school year starts in August, consortium students are already a month behind in the coursework as St Andrews (like GHS) start the courses in June after the exam diet has ended. Further, due to difficulties in transport arrangements she and other students studying the same subject have regularly been late to class and missed coursework and even lost time in assessments being taken that period. In addition, whilst supported study at St Andrews is offered, it is usually not possible for the consortium students to attend due to GHS timetable commitments.

Prom

The S6 Prom date has been set and will be held in Coats Memorial, Paisley on Tuesday 3rd June 2025. The cost per head is projected to be £45 with deposits currently being requested from students of £30 to secure a place. The event will be in the ballroom and it is planned to have a piper, mocktails and no alcohol until after the three-course meal has been served and with a wristband system for over 18s. There will be a DJ and photos available. The students will meet at GHS and a coach will take them to Coats. At the moment there are 104 people on the list for attending.

Fundraising

There have been several fundraising events organised by the Student Leaders already including a hugely successful Children in Need event; Halloween Dance (which had ticket sales of £540); the Snow Ball with over £1000 in ticket sales. The Student Leaders are planning a Bongos Bingo style night and hope Mr Gorman will assist in organising a Race Night possibly towards the end of February as well. Also planned is a sponsored walk; possibly a rent-a-senior event and Pyjama Party.

5. Debbie Martin DHT on Attainment

DM presented to the Parent Council on Attainment including the promotion of the flexible curriculum model. DM explained how data is collected and used to monitor students' progress and the use of Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs) which all S1s undertake and which help gauge/flag where students are off-track in terms of their learning. The data is used to determine the minimum pathways for students ie the baseline not the ceiling which are Academic 1; Academic 2; Vocational; and Employability and as an indicator of what the student is anticipated to achieve by the end of S5. There are also learner conversations held between the students and their teachers all focussed on their progress and pathway.

6. AOCB

None arising.

6. Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 10th February 2025 at 7pm before the meeting was closed.