



# Minutes of Marr College Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Present:** Judith McCaughey (Chair), Susan Forsyth (Treasurer), Margaret Maciver (Secretary), George Docherty (Head Teacher), Councillor Bob Pollock

**Council Members:** Carolyn Jamieson, Gail Whyte, Alison Braddock, Amy Griffiths

**Forum Members:** Donna Burns

**Apologies:** Jackie Lennox, Katherine Self, Caryn Mair, Marie-Anne Jackson, Lindsay Campbell, Fiona Stanbridge, Margaret Ann Arnott, Councillor Kenneth Bell, Lorena Trejo

## **1. Welcome and apologies**

Judith welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

## **2. Action Review**

- **Marr Football Teams:** Mr Docherty informed the Parent Council that he spoke to Mr Bryden (Head of PE) regarding the inconsistency of football teams within the school and confirmed that there is just not enough resource to manage Football Teams across all age groups. There is a new Active Schools Co-ordinator Nikki Lawson.
- **School Trips:** Mr Manning is gathering costs and looking into a potential Ski Trip for February 2024
- **Boys Toilets:** The Local Authority are putting in a wet wall and new door in the boys' toilets that are currently out of use.

## **3. Captains Report**

There was no Captains present due to exams and study leave. Mr Docherty highlighted that last month's Captains Report stated that they raised £3000 from the S6 bake sale, it was in fact £300; minutes to be updated accordingly.

## **4. Head Teachers Report**

**Mr Docherty gave a presentation on his HT Report, here are some of the key points:-**

- Easter School classes well attended, thank you to all Staff who provided sessions. Masterclass timetables have been issued via various forums
- S6 Students, Parents and Staff attended a Leavers' Ceremony on Thursday 18 April in the school Assembly Hall.
- S6 enjoyed a 'last day' Trip to Bouncestation followed by lunch and sports games at Dean Castle Country Park; Communication was received to congratulate S6 on their excellent conduct.

- S6 also participated in a Legacy Day, raising £2000 for the Ayrshire Hospice through a sponsored walk around Cumbrae. We plan to enhance our partnership with the Hospice through PSE inputs, assemblies, visits and voluntary work placements.
- S6 raised £700 from their recent Bingo evening for their Prom night
- Congratulations to Senior Girls Hockey Team who won the Aspire Cup and to the S4 and Senior Boys Handball Teams, who both won the National Schools Handball Championships
- Congratulations to the Digi Inventor Team and School News Team, who were finalists in the Digital Award category in the recent South Ayrshire Forum Awards. The Digi Inventors were overall winners on the evening.
- Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's expeditions are scheduled to take place in May and June.
- The projected roll for next sessions remains stable at 1125, with 188 new S1 Students starting at Marr. This figure may increase due to additional placing requests received.
- Mrs Maxwell (PE) and Mr Strachan (Physics) will be retiring at the end of this school session. Visiting Music Instructor Mr Aughtrie will also be retiring at the end of the session after an association with Marr since he was a Pupil in 1972. Presentations will take place during the last week of term.
- Uniform consultation will be concluded this term and new promotional materials will be share with Pupils and Parents
- The Director of Education and other external Colleagues will attend a meeting on Wednesday 15 May to review our SQA attainment.
- S5/S6 Parents completed a recent survey and overwhelmingly supported continuing to have an additions Parents' evening in place of a written report.
- Work is underway to identify Improvement priorities for next session. One of these will be exploring Adaptive Teaching approaches across the School.
- S4-S6 estimate Reports have been issued. S1 Full Reports and S2/S3 Tracking Reports are currently being completed by Staff and will be issued on 17<sup>th</sup> May
- A School Survey will be shared with all Parents w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> April and feedback will be used to support our Improvement Planning

## **5. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2024 were approved by Gail Whyte and seconded by Susan Forsyth.

## **6. Improvement Planning**

Mr Docherty issued a Table to the PC attendees, who grouped together to brainstorm ideas on what, if any, improvements could be made going forward. The Pupils also got a survey asking the same questions.

## **7. Parental Engagement**

- Mr Docherty gave an overview on the results from the recent Parent survey post Parents Evenings. There had been an error in the Group call which resulted in an issue with booking slots for some Parents.
- The Parents that responded in the survey, 77% said that the face-to-face approach was more beneficial than a Report.
- The new Parent Portal will take some work away from the Office staff, so hopefully at future Parents Evening, all Teachers will be issued with a list of names to ensure that the schedule runs accordingly.

## **8. Uniform Consultation**

Mr Docherty has been liaising with the Schoolwear supplier regarding a potential new purple top, he's hoping to have a sample at next month's meeting.

## **9. Next Months' Agenda**

- School Uniform

## **10. A.O.C.B.**

- Carolyn asked if there would be an Awards night for Sports; Mr Docherty confirmed that the new Sports Award Evening will take place on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June. Rugby Awards night will take place on 30 May 2024.
- The English Department are organising a 'Big Book Festival' and are looking to see if the Parent Council would sponsor the Star Book; PC are happy to support.

## **11. Date of next meeting**

This will take place in The South Beach Hotel on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 6:30pm.