

Minutes of Marr College Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 5th December 2018



Present: Hilary Ramage – Chair, Timothy Wight – Vice Chair, George Docherty – Head Teacher.

Council Members: Alan Blackwood, Clair Milne, Lindsay Campbell, Mark Fitzpatrick, Katie Atkinson, Lindsay Connell, Ady Allan, Cllr Bob Pollock

Forum Members: Laura McGarrity

Apologies: Angela Malcolm, Karen Dunlop, Katherine Woodhouse, Kaye Matthews, Duncan Beckwith, Lisa Rossi, Julie Cotter, Cllr Peter Convery

	Action
<p>1. <u>Welcome and Apologies</u> Hilary welcomed those in attendance and apologies were noted from those unable to attend.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Captains Report</u> Rosie and Sam provided a presentation about their recent activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Children in Need Day. • Dodge ball between S6 & teachers, face painting and bake sale raised £114.04. • 11 S6 Marr boys & 1 Queen Margaret boy shaved their heads for Ayr #Cancer Support and raised £2,816.00. Well done to all. • Leadership Group - Plans for the Christmas dance are ongoing. still to book the band and organise decorations, tickets will be £5.00. 'Night Before Christmas' was an opportunity to give items listed to disadvantaged children locally. Participation in student council meetings. • House Assemblies. Led by Captains. Pupil colours, Captains involved supporting Mrs Anderson in the Pupil colours applications, next application is in January. • Pupil support. At pupil support items for donations for the foodbank box will be welcome. • Young enterprise Group. Raised over a £1000 selling their products at the cluster school fayres. • Leaving dance. Ongoing preparations. • Student Improvement Plan –Captains feeding into this – main aims are: Respect for the School, communication and links within the community. 	
<p>3. <u>Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising</u> The minutes of the meeting held on 5th November 2018 were approved by Lindsay Campbell and seconded by Katie Atkinson and the outstanding actions reviewed as follows:</p> <p>The Chair of the Parent Council and members offered their congratulations to Mr Docherty in his new appointment as Head Teacher.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malawi – No further update. • PALM project – Alan attended and all done. • Careers meeting – see below. • Colours. Mrs Anderson identified 2 pupils who can apply in January. Braiding, if around the pocket then this increases the price. It was raised that it may not be needed. The school may buy in its own ribbon/braiding to reduce cost. • Online calendar. There are some errors for dates of forthcoming events. • Finance Update. Mrs Dunn was not present but general feedback from the officers 	GD

<p>was there is a fund in the council (School Board Clerk Fees fund) that the Parent Council can apply for up to £600. It will be on a future agenda at another Parent Council meeting. It was agreed that the Council would give a bottle of wine to Shona Grassom for help overlooking the accounts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BGE reporting. Mr Docherty working with staff. There is to be new reporting regarding tests. Three focus groups involved, pupils in favour of reports, more personalised. • Marr Trust. £5 500 donated towards school trips in the form of travel grants. Some requests are viewed by the trust as the statutory responsibility of the council to fund. The trust will monitor closely how it is spent and the next financial review will be September. • School Website. Someone in the school office will be identified to update website and Twitter. Mr Docherty will speak with the school librarian to progress this. • Expression update. Flyers have been handed out at school events to highlight to parents the move towards school communication being through the Expressions App. Mr Mclean to contact Lindsay to discuss 	<p>HR</p> <p>GD</p> <p>BP</p> <p>GD</p> <p>NM</p>
<p>4. <u>Head teacher's Report. Mr Docherty</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show My Homework (SMH) App. London based company. For tablet or mobile. There is a parent and pupil version. It shows what homework is allocated and when due. Also can show resources applicable for the topic. Senior management can view and can be used as a Quality Assurance approach. GDPR complaint. Onsite training available. 2 schools in South Ayrshire are using it already. However, discussion arose around Glow already in place (but is not accessible for parents) versus SMH. Other schools in Scotland do allow access to Glow so councillor Pollock will discuss with the members of the next Education Board Meeting. Cost £5960 for 3 year contract. Saving can be made by no longer purchasing school homework diaries, possible donation from Parent Council funds if after a full review and it is deemed the better App for the school and pupils. Will be on the agenda at future parent council meetings as further knowledge about its advantages and disadvantages arise. • Christmas Concert. Date 19/12/18 at 7pm. Helpers identified – Julie Cotter, Lindsay Campbell, Mark Fitzpatrick – from 630pm. Stall will be in the learning plaza along with teas & coffees. • <u>School Improvement Visit.</u> Mr Docherty presented the findings from the School Improvement visit along with the recommendations. As follows: Overview of Visit. Scoping presentation to visiting team. In total 33 class visits (SIV Team) and 17 class visits (SLT) with some overlap. S1- S6 range (more S4 than S2) plus Nail Bar, Barista and Volleyball. Staged Intervention and Pupil Files. Debriefing meeting with team and SLT. Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calm and purposeful ethos and a positive learning environment. • Strong relationships across school – teacher to pupil and pupil to pupil • School remarkably litter free. • Pupils excited about House system. • Pupils appreciative of supported study and Easter school. • Positive feedback on safeguarding and STINT overview. <p>Learning & Teaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where there are rich learning experiences, young people were engaged, motivated and keen to do well. • Pockets of low-level disruption were dealt with well by class teacher • Evidence of pupil voice shaping learning and teaching. Pupils like Daily Dozen and they feel listened to and valued • Marr 90 'Potentially a good avenue to settle pupils' 	<p>BP</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saw Learning Intentions and Success Criteria shared. Need to use opportunities to co-create with pupils • Well-resourced in ICT, though missed opportunities for use. When seen, ICT skills were well developed <p>Quality Assurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of department calendars, though need for whole school QA calendar. • Need to provide opportunities for peer observations and sharing practice. Use How Good Is Our School? and consider how young people could be involved. • Look outwards– provide opportunities for staff and young people to visit other schools. <p>Next Steps</p> <p>Marie McAdam to send draft letter for parents outlining key strengths and development needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading improvement and culture of learning • Range of opportunities – planning for young people and developing skills • Relationships across the school that contribute to a positive environment • Develop opportunities for sharing good practice • Develop opportunities for pupils to take responsibility for learning / leading own learning <p>A letter will go out to all parents regarding the School Improvement Visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported Learning. It has come to Mr Docherty that pupils from Dundonald may be disadvantaged accessing the supported learning for prelims in the school due to the frequency of the bus service. A trial of supported learning in Dundonald Primary for the coming prelim diet has been arranged with cover from teachers. Transport arrangements regarding Mybus or South Ayrshire community bus service is in discussion at this time. • Communication Group update. Group continue to meet. Draft communication strategy has been formatted by Mr Docherty. 	<p>GD</p> <p>GD</p> <p>GD</p>
<p>5. <u>Next Month's Agenda Items</u></p> <p>Items for discussion at next month's meeting were decided as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Captains' Report • Careers Evening update 	
<p>6. <u>AOCB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that February 2019 meeting will be cancelled in lieu of helping at the Career's Evening on 6th February 2019. 	
<p>7. <u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th January 2019 at 7pm.</p>	